


Herts

I

REPORT

on the state of the

PUBLIC HEALTH



in the

SOUTH WEST HERTS COMBINED DISTRICTS

comprising the

URBAN DISTRICT OF BUSHEY

URBAN DISTRICT OF CHORLEYWOOD

URBAN DISTRICT OF RICKMANSWORTH

and

RURAL DISTRICT OF WATFORD

in the

COUNTY OF HERTFORDSHIRE

by

A. SHAW, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1971

REPORT

on the state of the

PUBLIC HEALTH

for the year

1971

Report of the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Public Health Inspectors
of the Urban Districts of Bushey, Chorleywood and Rickmansworth and the
Rural District of Watford, incorporating the
Report of the Divisional Medical Officer, South West Hertfordshire.

REPORT

on the state of the

PUBLIC HEALTH

for the year

1871

Report of the Divisional Medical Officer, South West Hertfordshire.
Rural District of Watlington, incorporating the
of the Urban Districts of Bushey, Chorleywood and Rickmansworth and the
Report of the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Public Health Inspector

CONTENTS

	Page No.
Medical Officer of Health's Report on Combined Districts	6
Bushey Urban District	17
Chorleywood Urban District	40
Rickmansworth Urban District	50
Watford Rural District	71



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**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS
of the Councils of the Urban Districts of
Bushey, Chorleywood and Rickmansworth
and the Rural District of Watford**

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CHORLEYWOOD

Chief Public Health Inspector (& Surveyor)
Public Health Inspector (& Deputy Surveyor)

W. E. Hands
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RICKMANSWORTH

Chief Public Health Inspector
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector
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WATFORD RURAL DISTRICT

Chief Public Health Inspector
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector
Public Health Inspectors

F. Reeve
J. Cabourne
F. Valentine
A. V. Sullivan
T. B. Rosamond

September 1972

To the Chairmen and Members of —

the Urban District Council of Bushey
the Urban District Council of Chorleywood
the Urban District Council of Rickmansworth
the Rural District Council of Watford

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Vital statistics The vital statistics of the combined districts in 1971 were unremarkable except for their generally satisfactory nature. The infant mortality and perinatal mortality rates were below the national average and the incidence of notified infectious disease was relatively low.

Reorganisation of the National Health Service I commented last year on the forthcoming reorganisation of the National Health Service and since that time a number of documents have appeared, foreshadowing the changes. The Government's White Paper appeared in August 1972 and the proposals are what were expected. The country will be divided into fourteen regions and seventy-two area health authorities and the emphasis will be on strong management with delegation downwards and accountability upwards. Some Area Health Authorities, for example Hertfordshire, will have a number of health districts which will provide a complete health service for populations of 200,000 to 500,000.

Shortly after the White Paper came a document on "Management Arrangements for the Reorganised National Health Service" in which functions at various levels are defined. At district level the problems of co-ordination promise to be immensely difficult but with goodwill and time there is a definite promise of a comprehensive health service which will be to the benefit of the consumer.

However, the composition of the Area and Regional Health Authorities, in which the chairmen and nearly all the members are ministerial appointees, must leave doubt in many minds whether the Health Service will be responsive to public needs as expressed by the public. The proposed Community Health Councils, if used in the best way, can do much to meet the public needs but again doubt must arise as these have no executive functions.

Personal Health Services The report this year contains a report on the work of the Personal Health Services in South West Hertfordshire and it is hoped that members will be interested and informed by this account of the functions of the Health Executive.

I am grateful to members of the Councils, fellow chief officers and colleagues in public health, hospital and general practice for much help, courtesy and consideration.

The difficulties of working with four Chief Public Health Inspectors and their staffs are overcome by their unfailing helpfulness and consideration and I have pleasure in again recording my gratitude to them.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

A. SHAW

Medical Officer of Health

VITAL STATISTICS

Births There has been a gradual fall in the (crude) birth rate over the past ten years. Births in 1961 numbered 1,770 and in 1971 there were 1,369 births. The standardised birth rates in all of the districts (Table II) were less than in the country as a whole.

Infant mortality rate Taken district by district the infant mortality rate (deaths of infants under the age of one year per 1,000 live births) showed its usual wide variation with Watford Rural as low as 7 and Rickmansworth up to 27, which is very much higher than the national figure. These wide swings are produced by working with low population figures where even one extra death raises the level to apparently alarming proportions. To take the example of the smallest population, Chorleywood, there was one infant death in 93 live births and this gave an infant mortality rate of 11 per 1,000 live births. It takes little imagination to see that if there had been two deaths the rate would have been 22 and if four deaths the rate would have been 44, which is very much higher than the national rate of 18. If the population as a whole is taken (and even a population of 118,000 is a little too small to obtain results which are strictly statistically significant) the infant mortality rate is seen to be 13 per 1,000 which is smaller than the average for the previous ten years.

Perinatal mortality There were 11 stillbirths giving a stillbirth rate of 8 per 1,000 live and stillbirths compared with the national figure of 12. The same influences operate to cause stillbirths as those causing early neonatal death (i.e., in the first week of life) of live born infants and if the stillbirth figure and the early neonatal number of 12 are added this gives a perinatal mortality rate of 17 compared with the national figure of 22.

Death rate There were 1,033 deaths at all ages and the crude death rate was 8.8 per 1,000 population.

Causes of Death High in the lists of causes of death are cancer (219 deaths) ischaemic heart disease (210) cerebrovascular disease or stroke (134) and bronchitis and emphysema (49).

Cancers On the list of deaths from cancer in Table V it will be seen that there were 67 deaths from cancer of the lung, 51 in men and 16 in women. 29 of these deaths occurred after the age of 65, 8 between the ages of 45 and 54 and 21 between the ages of 55 and 64. The next biggest site of election was the intestine and there were 22 deaths in this category mainly in the lower intestine, i.e., rectum and colon. There were 26 deaths from cancer of the breast and 8 from cancer of the womb.

Ischaemic Heart Disease Ischaemic heart disease, that is to say, a disease of the coronary arteries resulting in a diminished blood flow to the heart muscle caused 210 deaths, 138 in men and 72 in women. 59 of these deaths occurred before the age of 65 but only 4 of the 59 were in women.

Cerebrovascular Disease Cerebrovascular disease (stroke) accounted for 134 deaths of which 82 occurred after the age of 65.

It will be seen therefore that the principal causes of death are now cancer and degenerative diseases. Cancer research in the past two decades has made many great discoveries which have been used successfully to the extent that some forms of cancer are now curable and the survival rate after treatment in others is considerably increased. However, in degenerative disease of the arteries less useful advances have been made and a large proportion of the resources of the health (and social services) are being devoted to the effects of increased longevity of the population and the effects of aging.

Accidents There were 16 deaths from motor vehicle accidents and all but three were under the age of 65. There were 22 deaths from all other accidents and in contrast 20 were in people above the age of 65, which is an indication of the importance of home accidents as a cause not only of death but of injury and also of the importance of home safety activities.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Table VIII shows the number of cases of notifiable infectious disease occurring in the combined districts and compares it with the figures for 1970.

Measles	There was a fall in the number of cases of measles from 346 to 179. There were more cases in the 5—9 age group than there were in children aged 1—4 years. Most of the cases in the 5—9 age group occurred at infant school age. Measles immunisation is not a procedure where the pressure can be allowed to relax and the potential exists for a relatively large number of children to attain young adulthood without either having had the disease (because of lack of opportunities of spread between susceptibles) or the vaccination. Accordingly a limited epidemic in adolescents is a possibility in future years.
Rubella	Rubella is not a notifiable disease and so no figures exist to show its incidence. However, it is my information from a number of sources that there was very little of the disease in the community in 1971. Arrangements are being made to offer a screening test to female teachers of childbearing age to ascertain whether they have had the disease or will need vaccination and teachers are obviously at high risk of contracting the disease from their pupils.
Dysentery	There was a marked fall to twelve cases in 1971 compared with 81 in 1970.
Food poisoning	There were ten cases of food poisoning due to salmonellae in 1971. The variety of infecting organisms was again very wide. <i>Salmonella enteritidis</i> , <i>adelaide</i> , <i>livingston</i> and <i>montivideo</i> were isolated in Bushey, Watford Rural contributed <i>salmonella havana</i> , <i>typhi-murium</i> and <i>livingston</i> , and Rickmansworth <i>salmonella heidleberg</i> . The names given to food poisoning organisms usually indicate the place where they were first identified and each salmonella shows characteristic serological reactions. Many of the infections reported were, in fact, acquired abroad.
Infective hepatitis	There was an increase in the number of cases of infective hepatitis from 15 in 1970 to 25 in 1971. Most of the cases were contributed by Watford Rural and this is the direct result of having Leavesden Hospital within the district because most cases were notified from that establishment.
Scarlet fever	There were 18 cases of scarlet fever in 1971 compared with 8 in 1970. This rise accords with information received from the Public Health Laboratory that 1971 showed an increase of isolations of all types of streptococci.
Tuberculosis	There was a fall in notified cases of tuberculosis in 1971. There were 14 cases compared with 20 in 1970.

It is a pleasure to record thanks to Dr. B.R.Eaton, Director of the Public Health Laboratory, Dr. C. Karran, physician at Watford General Hospital and Dr. P. Watney Roe, Chest Physician for their co-operation, help and advice during the year.

TABLE I

VITAL STATISTICS, NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

	1971				Combined Areas	
	Bushey	Chorleywood	Rickmansworth	Watford	1971	Average 1961/70
Area in Acres	3,866	2,055	7,639	17,782	-	-
Estimated Mid-year Population	24,610	8,500	29,670	55,100	117,880	119,791
Number of inhabited dwellings	7,748	2,664	9,722	16,120	-	-
Rateable Value	£1,495,313	£532,761	£2,353,282	£2,963,398	-	-
Sum represented by penny rate	£14,560	£5,280	£22,900	£29,020	-	-
Number of Births	357	93	377	542	1,369	1,638
Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	14.5	10.9	12.7	9.8	11.6	13.6
Area Comparability Factor	0.96	1.05	1.07	0.99	-	-
Standardised Birth Rate	13.9	11.4	13.6	9.7	-	-
Number of illegitimate births	20	4	22	49	95	96
Percentage of illegitimate births	6	4	6	7	7	5.9
Number of deaths	189	64	290	490	1,033	1,046
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population)	7.7	7.5	9.8	8.9	8.8	8.7
Area comparability factor	1.17	1.08	1.18	1.0	-	-
Standardised death rate	9.0	8.1	11.6	8.9	-	-
Natural increase in population (excess of births over deaths in year)	168	29	87	52	336	592
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year	3	1	10	4	18	26
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	8	11	27	7	13	15.5
Number of deaths of infants under 1 month	2	-	7	3	12	19
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths of infants under 1 month per 1,000 live births)	6	-	19	6	9	12.0
Number of deaths of infants under 1 week	2	-	7	3	12	16
Early neonatal mortality rate (deaths of infants under 1 week per 1,000 live births)	6	-	19	6	9	9.8
Number of still births	3	2	2	4	11	19
Stillbirth rate (per 1,000 births, live and still)	8	21	5	7	8	11.5
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and early neonatal deaths)	14	21	24	13	17	21.2

TABLE II
COMPARISON OF VITAL STATISTICS WITH HERTFORD AND ENGLAND & WALES

	Bushey	Chorleywood	Rickmansworth	Watford R.D.C.	Hertford County	England & Wales
Live Birth Rate	14.5	10.9	12.7	9.8	15.1	16.0
Area comparability factor	0.96	1.05	1.07	0.99	0.94	1.00
Standardised birth rate	13.9	11.4	13.6	9.7	14.2	16.0
Stillbirth rate	8	21	5	7	9.9	12
Infant mortality rate	8	11	27	7	15.1	18
Legitimate	6	11	25	8	14.6	17
Illegitimate	50	-	45	-	24.22	24
Neonatal mortality rate	6	-	19	6	10.8	12
Early neonatal mortality rate	6	-	19	6	8.6	10
Perinatal mortality rate	14	21	24	13	18.3	22
Maternal mortality rate	-	-	-	-	0.2	-
Death rate	7.7	7.5	9.8	8.9	9.0	11.6
Area comparability factor	1.17	1.08	1.18	1.00	1.13	1.00
Standardised death rate	9.0	8.1	11.6	8.9	10.2	11.6

TABLE III
TABLE SHOWING VARIOUS STATISTICAL DATA FOR COMBINED AREAS 1961-1970

Year	Population	Number of Births	Crude Birth Rate	Number of Deaths	Crude Death Rate	Natural increased population
1961	115,960	1,770	15.3	977	8.4	793
1962	118,010	1,746	14.8	1,060	9.0	686
1963	119,040	1,776	14.8	1,084	9.0	692
1964	121,810	1,787	14.7	987	8.1	800
1965	122,580	1,708	13.9	1,085	8.9	623
1966	123,050	1,605	13.0	1,047	8.5	558
1967	123,530	1,532	12.4	1,057	8.6	475
1968	117,230	1,576	13.4	1,080	8.4	496
1969	118,070	1,415	12.0	1,028	8.7	387
1970	118,630	1,466	11.4	1,052	8.9	414
Average	119,791	1,638	13.6	1,046	8.7	592

Year	Deaths under 1 year	Infant mortality rate	Number of deaths of infants under 1 month	Neonatal mortality	Number of deaths of infants under 1 week	Early neonatal mortality	Number of stillbirths	Stillbirth rate	Perinatal mortality	Number of maternal deaths	Maternal mortality rate
1961	30	17.0	22	12.4	20	11.3	28	15.6	26.7	-	-
1962	31	17.8	23	13.2	20	11.5	18	10.2	21.5	-	-
1963	30	16.9	25	14.1	22	12.4	21	11.7	24.0	-	-
1964	28	15.7	21	11.8	16	9.0	17	9.4	18.3	-	-
1965	23	13.5	18	10.5	15	8.8	28	16.0	24.7	-	-
1966	26	16.4	20	12.5	18	11.2	15	9.3	20.4	-	-
1967	25	16.3	19	12.4	15	9.8	20	12.9	22.6	-	-
1968	30	19.0	19	12.1	16	10.2	24	15.0	25.0	-	-
1969	13	9.1	6	4.2	6	4.2	8	5.6	9.8	-	-
1970	19	13.0	15	10.0	15	10.0	14	9.0	19.0	-	-
Average	26	15.5	19	12.0	16	9.8	19	11.5	21.2	-	-

(Tables in the reports of individual districts show comparable figures for that district alone)

TABLE IV

MAIN CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS 1971

Cause of death	Bushey	Chorleywood	Rickmansworth	Watford R.D.C.	TOTAL
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	4
Meningococcal infection	-	-	1	-	1
Congenital anomalies	-	-	3	1	4
Birth injury, difficult labour etc.	2	-	3	-	5
Other causes, mainly prematurity	-	-	2	2	4
	3	1	10	4	18

TABLE V

SUMMARY OF DEATHS – ALL AGES
WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO CANCER AND CORONARY THROMBOSIS

Cause of death	Bushey		Chorleywood		Rickmansworth		Watford R.D.C.		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
CANCER									
Lungs, bronchus	7	5	3	-	9	8	32	3	67
Breast	-	7	-	1	-	9	-	9	26
Uterus	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	4	8
Other types	12	11	6	3	22	13	27	24	118
ISCHAEMIC HEART DISEASE	31	16	7	4	42	20	58	32	210
DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR	3	-	-	1	6	4	1	3	18
OTHER CAUSES									
1 – over 75	48	48	15	24	71	83	132	165	586
Total deaths – all causes	101	88	31	33	150	140	250	240	1,033
	189		64		290		490		

TABLE VI

DEATHS BETWEEN THE AGES 1-44 YEARS

Cause	Bushey		Chorleywood		Rickmansworth		Watford R.D.C.		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Cancer									
Lungs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Breast	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Uterus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Other	-	-	2	1	1	2	1	1	8
Infective Parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Endocrine diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Diseases of nervous system	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	5
Ischaemic heart disease	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Cerebrovascular disease	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Other diseases of circulatory system	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	5
Bronchitis & emphysema	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Asthma	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Diseases of digestive system	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Nephritis & nephrosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Congenital anomalies	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	3
Symptoms and ill-defined causes	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	-	-	6	-	4	-	11
All other accidents	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Suicide	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	4
All other external causes	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>13</u>	54
	4		4		16		30		

(Tables in the reports of individual districts show a breakdown of causes of deaths in that district alone).

TABLE VII

DEATHS BETWEEN THE AGES 45-64 YEARS

Cause	Bushey		Chorleywood		Rickmansworth		Watford R.D.C.		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Tuberculosis—respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Cancer									
Lungs, bronchus	2	2	1	-	4	3	15	2	29
Breast	-	4	-	1	-	4	-	4	13
Uterus	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	4
Other	5	5	1	1	8	5	9	10	44
Benign neoplasm	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Diabetes melletus	1	1	-	-	1	2	-	1	6
Endocrine disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Anaemias	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Mental disorders	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Multiple sclerosis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Diseases—nervous system	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Ischaemic heart disease	14	2	1	-	17	1	22	1	58
Other heart disease	2	1	-	-	3	2	2	4	14
Hypertensive diseases	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	5
Cerebrovascular disease	1	-	1	-	1	5	6	4	18
Other diseases of circulatory system	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	3
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	5	12
Bronchitis & emphysema	1	-	-	-	1	-	5	2	9
Asthma	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Peptic ulcer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Cirrhosis of liver	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Other diseases of digestive system	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Nephritis & nephrosis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	3
Other diseases of genito urinary system	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Congenital anomalies	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Other accidents	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Suicide	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3
All other external causes	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	4
	<u>31</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>47</u>	250
	50		6		67		127		

TABLE VIII
INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1971
(1970 figures in brackets)

Disease	Bushey	Chorleywood	Rickmansworth	Watford R.D.C.	TOTAL
Measles	8 (52)	13 (4)	67 (60)	91 (230)	179 (346)
Whooping Cough	6 (6)	2 (8)	1 (3)	15 (18)	24 (35)
Scarlet Fever	4 (1)	- (-)	1 (2)	13 (5)	18 (8)
Dysentery	5 (2)	- (-)	- (55)	7 (24)	12 (81)
Food Poisoning	6 (11)	- (-)	1 (4)	5 (17)	12 (32)
Infective Hepatitis	4 (4)	- (1)	1 (1)	20 (9)	25 (15)
Paratyphoid	- (-)	- (-)	- (1)	- (-)	- (1)
Encephalitis					
Infective	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (1)	- (1)
Post infectious	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (1)	- (1)
Malaria	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
Acute meningitis	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
Tuberculosis					
Respiratory	1 (2)	1 (1)	5 (3)	11 (7)	18 (13)
Other	1 (1)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (-)	2 (1)
	35 (79)	16 (14)	76 (129)	165 (312)	292 (534)

Age distributions for the various diseases are included in reports of individual districts.

TABLE IX

TUBERCULOSIS

	Bushey			Chorleywood			Rickmansworth			Watford R.D.C.			TOTAL		
	Respiratory		Other	Respiratory		Other	Respiratory		Other	Respiratory		Other	Respiratory		Other
	M	F	M	M	F	M	M	F	M	M	F	M	M	F	M
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 - 74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	1	-	-	1	-	4	1	-	5	6	1	9	9	1

BUSHEY URBAN DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1971/72

Councillor J. Casey (Chairman)

M. A. Colin

M. D. Colne

G. C. Dalby

N. J. Franklin

A. C. W. Glasgow

Mrs. M. Mijovic

E. W. West

STAFF

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

A. F. C. GISBORNE

Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary
Inspectors Joint Board, Cert. Inspn. of Meat
and other Foods

SENIOR ASSISTANT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

A. G. BUTTERFIELD

Cert. P.H.I.E.B.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

C. HUDSON

Dip. P.H.I.E.B.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

A. R. PADDINGTON

SECRETARY

MRS. E. R. NASH

TABLE 1 (B)

VITAL STATISTICS, NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

	1971						Average 1961/70
Area of District (land and inland water)	3,866 acres						
Highest point — London Road at southern boundary	506.7 feet						
Lowest point — Near River Colne	172.2 feet						
Estimated mid-year population	24,610						
Number of inhabited dwellings	7,748						
Rateable value	£1,495,313						
Sum represented by penny rate	£14,560						
Number of births	..	..	..	..	..	357	386
Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population)	..	..	..	..	..	14.5	16.4
Area comparability factor	..	..	..	..	..	.96	-
Standardised birth rate	..	..	..	..	..	13.9	15.3
Number of illegitimate births	..	..	..	..	..	20	19
Percentage of illegitimate births	..	..	..	..	..	6	5
Number of deaths	..	..	..	..	..	189	202
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population)	..	..	..	..	..	7.7	8.5
Area comparability factor	..	..	..	..	..	1.17	-
Standardised death rate	..	..	..	..	..	9.0	9.9
Natural increase of population (excess of births over deaths in year)	..	..	..	..	..	168	185
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	3	5
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	..	..	..	..	..	8	13.5
Number of deaths of infants under 1 month	..	..	..	..	..	2	4
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths of infants under 1 month per 1,000 live births)	..	..	..	..	..	6	9.6
Number of deaths of infants under 1 week	..	..	..	..	..	2	4
Early neonatal mortality rate (deaths of infants under 1 week per 1,000 live births)	..	..	..	..	..	6	9.0
Number of stillbirths	..	..	..	..	..	3	4
Stillbirth rate (per 1,000 births, live and still)	..	..	..	..	..	8	9.9
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and early neonatal deaths)	..	..	..	..	..	14	18.8

TABLE II (B)

TABLE SHOWING VARIOUS STATISTICAL DATA FOR BUSHEY URBAN DISTRICT 1961-70

Year	Population	Number of Births	Crude Birth Rate	Area com-parability factor	Standardised Birth Rate	Number of Deaths	Crude Death Rate	Area com-parability factor	Standardised Death Rate	Natural increased population	
1961	21,380	337	15.8	0.90	14.2	182	8.5	1.16	9.7	155	
1962	22,080	377	17.0	0.89	15.1	192	8.7	1.10	9.6	185	
1963	22,250	422	19.0	0.89	16.9	204	9.2	1.20	11.0	218	
1964	23,450	416	17.7	0.96	17.0	205	8.7	1.20	10.4	211	
1965	23,810	444	18.6	0.96	17.8	211	8.9	1.20	10.7	233	
1966	24,120	381	15.8	0.96	15.2	206	8.5	1.11	9.4	175	
1967	24,310	356	14.6	0.96	14.0	202	8.3	1.18	9.8	154	
1968	24,750	391	15.8	0.96	15.2	203	8.2	1.15	9.4	188	
1969	25,290	387	15.3	0.96	14.7	207	8.2	1.20	9.8	180	
1970	25,430	353	13.9	0.96	13.3	203	8.0	1.17	9.4	150	
Average	23,687	386	16.4		15.3	202	8.5		9.9	185	
Year	Deaths under 1 year	Infant mortality rate	Number of deaths of infants under 1 month	Neonatal mortality	Number of deaths of infants under 1 week	Early neonatal mortality	Number of stillbirths	Stillbirth rate	Perinatal mortality	Number of maternal deaths	Maternal mortality rate
1961	6	17.8	5	14.5	5	14.5	4	11.7	26.4	-	-
1962	4	10.6	3	8.0	3	8.0	4	10.5	18.1	-	-
1963	3	7.1	3	7.1	3	7.1	3	7.1	14.1	-	-
1964	5	12.0	4	9.6	3	7.2	4	9.5	16.7	-	-
1965	4	9.0	3	6.8	3	6.8	9	19.9	26.5	-	-
1966	4	10.5	2	5.2	2	5.2	5	13.0	18.1	-	-
1967	3	8.4	2	5.6	1	2.8	2	5.6	8.4	-	-
1968	14	36.0	9	23.0	9	23.0	3	8.0	30.0	-	-
1969	5	13.0	3	7.8	3	7.8	1	3.0	10.0	-	-
1970	4	11.0	3	8.0	3	8.0	4	11.0	20.0	-	-
Average	5	13.5	4	9.6	4	9.0	4	9.9	18.8	-	-

TABLE III (B)

DEATHS 1971

Cause of death	Sex	All ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	Age in Years								75 & over	
					Age in Years									
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74		
Other Tuberculosis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal cavity, etc.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	3	3
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Leukaemia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other malignant neoplasms	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	2
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Diabetes mellitus	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Mental disorders	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multiple sclerosis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Other diseases of nervous system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hypertensive disease	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ischaemic heart disease	M	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	12	8	9	9
	F	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	6	6	8

Cause of death	Sex	All ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	Age in years							65-74	75 & over
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64		
Other forms of heart disease	M F	5 6	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	- -	2 -	2 5
Cerebrovascular disease	M F	3 15	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- 3	2 11
Other diseases of circulatory system	M F	5 6	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	1 1	4 4
Pneumonia	M F	7 4	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	5 4
Bronchitis and emphysema	M F	5 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	1 1	3 -
Asthma	M F	1 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- 1
Other diseases of respiratory system	M F	3 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	2 -
Peptic ulcer	M F	1 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	1 -
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1
Other diseases of digestive system	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -
Nephritis and nephrosis	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -
Hyperplasia of prostate	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	M F	1 2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 2
Congenital anomalies	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	M F	2 -	2 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Motor vehicle accidents	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
All other accidents	M F	3 2	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2 2
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	M F	2 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -
All other external causes	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M F	101 88	2 -	1 -	- -	- -	2 -	1 1	- -	7 7	24 12	18 17	46 51

TABLE IV (B)

NUMBER OF CASES AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CASES
OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1971

Age Group	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Infective Hepatitis
Under 1	-	1	-	-	-	-
1 —	1	1	-	-	-	-
2 —	1	2	-	-	-	-
3 —	-	-	-	-	1	-
4 —	1	-	-	-	-	-
5 — 9	4	1	3	2	-	2
10 — 14	-	1	-	-	1	1
15 — 24	-	-	1	1	-	-
25 & over	1	-	-	2	4	1
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	8	6	4	5	6	4

The age distribution for tuberculosis is shown in Table IX.

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Introduction Day by day in a quiet unassuming manner the work of the Public Health Inspectors continues safe-guarding as far as possible the public from the many environmental health hazards of the day. Occasionally it becomes necessary to prosecute someone with resultant publicity, but the principal function of the Inspectors is to achieve their object by advice and encouragement. The Inspectors' duties are very wide if we are to make sure that the environment we live in, the air we breathe, the food we eat, our place of employment, and the dwelling in which we live are all satisfactory and comply with the various standards laid down.

Local Government will be changing its face during the next few years and it will be essential for the well-being of the public for the new Authorities to have available adequate advice on matters regarding environmental hygiene which have emerged from a Public Health Inspection service for over a century. The Officers who are able to give such advice must not be buried in some vast administrative machine so that this information becomes lost and not available to the new authorities.

It has been stated that perhaps the most important function of the new districts will be that of housing. There are now very few completely unfit houses in Bushey that cannot be adequately repaired and brought up to present day standards but such standards of fitness must continue to rise and owners should now consider taking full advantage of the general grants for Improvement that are available. This also applies to some of our older Council houses and it is satisfactory to recall that the Council are giving thought to this matter.

Since I came to Bushey in 1946 there have been many problems regarding the stationing of caravans occupied by "Gypsies and other travellers", but after the establishment of a site for these people in Bushey, the problem receded for some time. Unfortunately it has again developed and one can only hope that the appropriate Authority, together with the Department of the Environment, will see that sufficient sites are developed without delay so that the required designation can be made under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Acts. One can sometimes have sympathy with the occupiers of these caravans, but one must not forget the nuisance that is caused by them to other members of the public, together with the possible health hazard owing to the absence of proper sanitary accommodation and the mess that is often left when these people move on.

Attached to my report are appendices in tabular form which set out the work of the Inspectors and the results achieved. I would like to place on record my appreciation of their continued support and that of the clerical staff.

HOUSING

- Unfit dwellings** The only unfit dwelling dealt with during the year was the basement at 163 Sparrows Herne which was closed for human habitation as a result of an agreement with the owner. The last family remaining in occupation in Bushey Hall Farm Cottages was rehoused by the Council and the five cottages were demolished and the site cleared early in 1972.
- Disrepair** There was a substantial increase in the number of dwellings where works of repair were carried out during 1971. In nearly all cases, however, this was the result of applications for Improvement Grants or Qualification Certificates.
- Improvement Grants** The number of applications received was somewhat less than in 1970. A total of 899 dwellings have now been surveyed and 243 were found to lack at least one of the standard amenities and they all appeared suitable for a grant. The attention of the owners has been drawn to the grant provisions and a number of interviews were arranged. It is hoped that most of these dwellings will at least be provided with the standard amenities in due course.
- Qualification Certificates** Table V sets out the position regarding Qualification Certificates. This procedure which is laid down in the Housing Act 1969 has worked quite smoothly. No formal appeals have been made against the Council's decision and nearly all other objections made by the tenants and landlords have been satisfactorily resolved.
- Caravan sites** No change has taken place in the number of residential licensed sites in the district. There are 12 of these sites accommodating 137 caravans. One unsatisfactory site, however, changed hands and discussions were started with the new owners concerning its complete redevelopment. The Company concerned intends to bring this site up to modern standards, so that all caravans can be connected to the main drainage and have their own individual water supplies. It is hoped that most of the reconstruction of this site will be completed by the middle of 1972.
- The Council operate their own site which is situated in the area of the Watford Rural District Council and all vacancies that occurred during the year were allocated to applicants whose names were on the waiting list.
- In Bushey there is also a site for itinerant caravan dwellers, and this is operated by the Herts County Council, accommodating 27 caravans. No problems occurred during the year. Until November only the occasional itinerant caravan dweller was found parking on the greenswards in the district, but from November onwards considerable numbers began to arrive. The Council became very concerned about this situation, particularly regarding the breaking up of cars on the greenswards adjoining the A41 road. The Council were also concerned about the absence of any form of sanitary accommodation and appropriate action was taken under the provisions of the Public Health Act to rectify any nuisance by requiring the itinerant caravan dwellers to move on and so allow the area to recover from any contamination.

WATER SUPPLY

- Domestic supply** The whole of the district is supplied with water by the Colne Valley Water Company, with the exception of one house which has its own borehole. All premises in this district have an internal water supply and four samples of mains water were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. In all cases the samples were reported as being satisfactory.
- Swimming pools** The water of the Council's Swimming Pool is continuously chlorinated and heated. Tests for free chlorine are carried out at regular intervals when the pool is in use, and 21 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination. Four of these were not up to the required standard and repeat samples were taken, all of which proved satisfactory. The testing of water in private swimming pools was continued during 1971 and 15 samples of water were submitted for examination. Five of these samples were not up to the required standard and advice regarding maintenance and the chlorination of the swimming pool water was given to the owners of the pools concerned. Following this, further samples were taken and these proved satisfactory.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

- Refuse collection** This service is carried out by contract and has been maintained satisfactorily throughout the year with three rear loading compression type vehicles in full time use.
- It is still regretted that unwanted articles and refuse are being dumped in some of the hedgerows around Bushey despite the fact that facilities at the Council's Depot in Bournehall Lane for the free disposal of these unwanted items are available.
- Refuse disposal** All refuse from the district is disposed of at the private tip of Moormill some 6 miles from Bushey.

FOOD

- Food Hygiene** Routine inspections were made to all food premises with at least four visits to premises such as catering establishments and canteens. No serious contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations were reported but the occupiers' attention was drawn to a number of other matters all of which were remedied without resort to formal action. (see Table VII).
- There is one Food Factory which was established in the district during the year. It produces deep frozen pizza pies. The process involves the making, proving, prebaking and filling of the dough with various types of fillings to produce different varieties of pies. The pies are then cooked and deep frozen. Regular inspections are carried out by the District Public Health Inspector.
- Food Inspection** **Slaughterhouses**
- There are no slaughterhouses within the district and no casual slaughtering took place during 1971.
- Poultry Processing Premises**
- The small poultry processing establishment continued to operate throughout the year. The farmer slaughters approximately 2,500 birds annually, mainly for the domestic market. Constructional works have been carried out on the existing buildings bringing them in line with modern standards.
- Regular inspections are made by the District Public Health Inspectors.

Food Warehouse

Towards the end of the year a large warehouse was established for the storage and dispatching of food products in this country, and it is intended that this depot should also handle a large quantity of container goods from abroad. These containers arrive direct from the port without any prior inspection by the Port Health Authority, and it will be the duty of this Authority to inspect the goods under the Imported Food Regulations Act 1968.

Unsound Food

Table VII sets out details concerning meat and other foods that were condemned and this is followed by a table showing a list of complaints that were received and the action taken.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Measurement of Pollution	The Council continued to take daily readings of the amount of smoke and Sulphur Dioxide in the atmosphere at two sites within the District. One is situated at the Council Offices and the other is in the stores of the Colne Valley Water Company. Records have now been kept from November 1966 and these show that there has been a gradual decline in the levels of pollution. The Colne Valley Water Company's co-operation and the assistance of their staff in regard to these measurements is greatly appreciated.
Notifications	Three notices were received concerning the installation of boiler plants. The height of the chimney serving one of these boilers was approved in accordance with the Clean Air Act 1968.

PLACES OF WORK

Factories	Routine inspections of factories were made under the provisions of the Factories Act and the details of action taken are given in Table XVI(i). Inspections of factory canteens and food factories were also carried out under the provisions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations.
Shops Act	Routine inspections are carried out by the Public Health Inspectors while visiting the various shops mainly in connection with other matters. No complaints were received from the public and no contraventions found during the routine inspections.
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963	<p>Over the years it has been the policy to carry out at least one general inspection of premises covered by the Act, once every three years. During 1971 over one third of the premises registered received a general inspection, together with other visits totalling 227.</p> <p>The number of contraventions found is decreasing and it is felt that this is mainly due to the employers being made aware of the provisions of the Act during these routine visits. (See Table XIV).</p>
Accidents	<p>During 1971 there were five accidents reported under the provisions of the Act. Three of these occurred while employees were loading or unloading articles in connection with their work. The remaining two were due to an employee falling from a ladder and a fork lift truck respectively. None of these accidents were fatal and were not due to any contraventions of this Act, therefore, no formal action was necessary by the Local Authority.</p> <p>Table XIII gives statistical information on the number of registered premises, employees, etc.</p>

MISCELLANEOUS

**Noise Abatement
Act 1960** No complaints were received during the year regarding noise nuisance.

**Pet Animals
Act 1951** There are two shops in the district licensed under the provisions of the Pet Animals Act. One deals in the sale of fish, birds and small mammals, and the other in the sale of puppies.

**Animal Boarding
Establishments
Act 1963** Six licensed Animal Boarding Establishments operate within the area with kennel accommodation for 390 dogs and 132 cats.

**Riding Establishments
Acts 1964 and 1970** Three licences were issued during the year for 2 large Riding Establishments, stabling some 50 horses and one smaller Establishment.

All the above licensed premises were inspected by the Council's Veterinary Surgeons at least once during the year and by the Council's Public Health Inspectors on a number of other occasions.

**Scrap Metal Dealers
Act 1964** Two dealers have scrap metal stores within the district and one other resides in the district but his store is situated outside the area. Eleven other persons are registered, these being Itinerant Traders living on the Herts County Council's Caravan Site at Sandy Lane.

Home Safety Publicity was given during the year to various aspects of home safety including the display of posters, issue of leaflets, etc.

An exhibit was displayed at the Bushey Horticultural Society's Annual Show held on the 31st August. The display drew attention to the safe storage of drugs and medicine out of reach of children and included an illuminated panel showing the similarity between sweets and certain drugs.

APPENDIX

TABLE I

RECORDS OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS 1971

DWELLINGS	
Total number of houses inspected (Public Health and Housing Acts)	172
Number of inspections made for the purpose	321
Caravan Sites (Licensed)	31
Caravan Sites (Itinerant sites not licensed)	187
PLACES OF WORK	
Power Factories	49
Non-power factories	-
Building sites etc.	31
Outworkers	-
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963	
(a) Offices	24
(b) Retail Shops	31
(c) Wholesale shops, Warehouses	1
(d) Catering establishments and canteens	1
(e) Fuel Storage Depots	-
Revisits	170
Shops Act	32
FOOD PREMISES	
Bakehouses	20
Butchers	47
Cafes and Restaurants	29
Canteens, factory	51
Canteens, school	38
Fish and Chip shops	4
Fishmongers	4
Food factories	5
Greengrocers	23
Grocers, retail	46
Hotels and Guest Houses	1
Public Houses	35
Licensed Clubs	13
Miscellaneous Premises (sweets, etc.)	20
Stalls/Delivery Vehicles	1
"Take-away" Food Shops	7
AIR	
Clean Air Acts	31
PUBLIC HEALTH ACT	
Insect Pests	305
Conveniences	10
Infectious disease	122
Schools	19
Swimming Pools	40
OTHER ACTS	
Animal Acts	20
MISCELLANEOUS	
Water samples	4
General complaints and visits	466
	988

TABLE II
HOUSING

Number of Houses and Flats erected During the Year	
(a) By the Local Authority	123
(b) By other Authorities and Organisations	-
(c) By private persons	47

TABLE III
HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND OTHER UNFIT HOUSES

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
HOUSES DEMOLISHED IN CLEARANCE AREAS	Nil	Nil	Nil
HOUSES DEMOLISHED NOT IN CLEARANCE AREAS			
As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) of the Housing Act 1957	Nil	6	2
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	Nil	Nil	Nil

UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED			
Under Section 17(1) of the Housing Act 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 of the Housing Act 1957	1	2	1

	By Owner	By Local Authority
UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED		
After informal action by Local Authority	22	Nil
After formal Notice under :—		
(a) Public Health Acts	Nil	Nil
(b) Sections 9 & 16 Housing Act 1957	Nil	Nil

TABLE IV
HOUSING ACT 1969
IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Total number of applications received	38
Number of :	
Standard Grant Applications received	17
Applications approved	12
Applications refused	-
Applications completed	18
Applications withdrawn	1
Number of :	
Improvement Grant Applications received	21
Applications approved	11
Applications refused	-
Applications completed	4
Applications withdrawn	2

TABLE V
QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES

Improvement Cases	
Number of applications for qualification certificates	16
Number of certificates of Provisional Approval issued	11
Number of qualification certificates issued	2
Total number of applications under consideration	19
Standard Amenities Already Provided	
Number of applications for qualification certificates	19
Number of qualification certificates issued	32
Number of applications for qualification certificates refused	5
Number of applications under consideration	17

TABLE VI

FOOD

Types of Food Premises within the District at 31st December 1971

Bakehouses	5
Butchers	13
Cafes and Restaurants	9
Canteens, factory/office	16
Canteens, school	22
Fish and Chip shops	2
Fishmongers	3
Food Factories	1
Greengrocers	12
Grocers, retail	16
Hotels and Guest Houses	1
Public Houses	22
Licensed Clubs	6
Miscellaneous Premises (sweets, etc.)	24
Stalls/Delivery Vehicles	2
"Take-away" Food shops	2
All these premises comply with Regulations 16 and 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, where applicable.	

Food Premises Registered by the Council under Section 16,
Food and Drugs Act 1955

Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	Nil
Ice Cream Dealers	...	...	32
Preserved Food Manufacturers	...	...	13

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959

Premises registered under the above Regulations as Distributors of Milk	11
---	-----	-----	----

TABLE VII
FOOD HYGIENE

Food Condemned

Meat, carcase	133 lbs.
Meat, cooked	40 lbs.
Fish	28 lbs.
Other foods	1,544 lbs.

The following contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations were remedied:—

Personal Cleanliness	-
Sanitary Conveniences:	
(a) Insufficient	1
(b) Defective	-
(c) Dirty	1
Premises:	
(a) Dirty condition	7
(b) Defective	11
Washing Facilities:	
(a) Insufficient	1
(b) Defective	1
(c) Dirty	-
(d) Absence of soap, etc.	1
Equipment:	
(a) Dirty condition	1
(b) Defective or Insufficient	1

Food Complaints

The following is a table of complaints received together with the action taken regarding food which was unfit, out of condition or contained foreign materials.

Item	Action taken
Brown Loaf	Mouldy condition. Manufacturer informed.
Milk	Foreign body identified as human hair. Producer warned.
Cake	Mouldy condition. Baker warned.
Milk Bottle	Dirty condition. Dairy warned.
Chicken & Ham Pie	Contained foil. Matter dealt with informally.
Milk Bottle	Paint on the inside and outside of bottle. Referred to L.A. where milk was bottled. Dairy fined £100.
Cottage Cheese	Out of condition. Reported to manufacturers.
Beef Burgers	Contained cigarette end. Manufacturers warned.
Cake	Mouldy condition. Cake was not out of code. Manufacturers informed.
Milk Bottle	Dirty condition. Referred to L.A. where milk was bottled. Dairy fined £15.
Milk Bottle	Dirty condition. Referred to L.A. where milk was bottled. Dairy fined £15.
Milk Bottle	Contained milk residue. Dairy informed.
Milk Bottle	Contained broken glass. Dairy warned.
Chicken & Vegetable Pasty	Mouldy condition. Retailer warned.
Milk Bottle	Alleged dirt. Found to be a flaw in the glass.
Bread	Mouldy condition. Manufacturers warned.
Tin of Grapefruit	Contained moth. Referred to Importers.

TABLE VIII
FOOD POISONING

	No.	Number of Cases		Organism Responsible	Food Suspected
		Notified	Otherwise Ascertained		
Family outbreak	1	1	-	Salmonella Enteritidis	Unknown
Other outbreaks	-	-	-	-	-
Single cases	1	1	-	Salmonella unknown	Unknown
	1	1	-	Salmonella Havana	Unknown
	1	1	-	Salmonella Enteritidis	Unknown
	1	1	-	Salmonella Indiana	Unknown
	1	1	-	Salmonella Montevideo	Unknown

TABLE IX
ICE CREAM SAMPLES

Bacteriological Samples

At the end of the year 31 premises were on the register, all receiving their supplies from large manufacturers of ice-cream. 20 samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows:—

GRADE 1	12	Satisfactory
GRADE 2	7	Satisfactory
GRADE 3	1	Unsatisfactory
GRADE 4	-	-
After an unsatisfactory sample, handling and storage methods are inspected and repeat samples are taken until a satisfactory result is obtained.		

TABLE X
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955
SAMPLING

The Bushey Urban District Council is not a sampling authority under the Food and Drugs Act. Routine sampling has been carried out by the County Council to whom we are indebted for the following details :—

Milk	..	..	..	17 All Genuine
Others	..	..	..	24 All Genuine

Details:

Gin, Pork Sausages, Beef Sausages, Pork Sausage Meat, Orange Drink, Pease Pudding, Almond Marzipan, Nut Brittle, Jelly (Blackcurrant), Cheese Spread, Instant Coffee, Lychees in Syrup, Peanut Butter, Indian Tonic Water, Fruit Cocktail, Cream of Chicken Soup, Granary Bread, Pink Salmon, Strawberry Jam, Liquid Cochineal, Crumble Creams, Braised Kidneys in Gravy, French Onion Soup, Sugar Smacks.

TABLE XI
WATER SUPPLY

Domestic Supply
Bacteriological samples

Samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
4	4	-

Swimming Pools
Bacteriological samples

	Samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Council	21	17	4
Private	15	10	5
After an unsatisfactory result, equipment and methods are inspected and repeat samples taken until a satisfactory result is obtained.			

TABLE XII
DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Dwellings not connected

Number of Cesspools emptied	26
Number of Emptyings	328
Number of Loads removed	681
Number of Gallons removed	749,000

Drain Testing and Clearing

New and Altered Drainage Systems	
Inspections — number of tests made	277
Council Houses	
Number of obstructions cleared by the Department	70
Number of houses affected	193
Private Houses	
Number of obstructions cleared by the Department	127
Number of houses affected	292

TABLE XIII

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION

	Number of premises newly registered during the year	Number of Premises on the Register at the end of 1971
Offices	2	55
Retail shops	1	71
Wholesale shops, warehouses	2	4
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	-	10
Fuel storage depots	-	-
	<u>5</u>	<u>140</u>

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Number of General Inspections

Offices	24
Retail shops	31
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1
Catering Establishments, open to the public, canteens	1
Fuel storage depots	-
	<u>57</u>

Number of visits of all kinds (including general inspections)

227

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

	Males	Females	Total
Offices	262	236	498
Retail shops	104	192	296
Wholesale shops, warehouses	77	56	133
Catering Establishments, open to the public, canteens	<u>41</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>89</u>
	<u>484</u>	<u>532</u>	<u>1,016</u>

TABLE XIV

Contraventions of Act found in 18 premises during 1971

Unclean condition of premises	3
Unsatisfactory sanitary conveniences or washing facilities	3
Defective condition of floors or stairs	1
Inadequate first aid equipment	8
Failure to display prescribed Abstract of the Act	4
No thermometer	<u>5</u>
	<u>24</u>

TABLE XV

Analysis of Causes of Accidents notified during 1971

Falls of persons	2
Handling of goods	<u>3</u>
	<u>5</u>

TABLE XVI(i)

FACTORIES ACT 1961

	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Inspections:				
Factories in which Sections 1, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	76	61	1	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	6	30	-	-
TOTAL	82	91	1	-
	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			To H. M. Inspector	By H. M. Inspector
2. Cases in which Defects were found				
Unsuitable sanitary conveniences (see 7)	1	1	-	-

TABLE XVI(ii)

OUTWORK (SECTIONS 133 AND 134)

Nature of Work	No. of outworkers in August list notified to Local Authority.
Wearing apparel (Making alterations etc.)	1
Making of Christmas crackers	1
TOTAL	2
There were no cases of default in sending lists of outworkers as required by Section 133(i) (c).	

TABLE XVII

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	9,405	27
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	269	4
(b) Number infested by :—		
(i) Rats	137	2
(ii) Mice	70	-
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	271	14
(b) Number infested by :—		
(i) Rats	11	5
(ii) Mice	-	-

CHORLEYWOOD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1971/72

Councillor Dr. E. W. R. Fairley (Chairman)
J. M. Ellis (Vice-Chairman)
Lady A. L. T. Lewis
Mrs. H. R. Whiting
R. A. Crockett
E. F. Griffin
B. J. Hooton

STAFF

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
(AND SURVEYOR)

W. E. HANDS
Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary
Inspectors Joint Board; Cert. Inspn. of Meat
and Other Foods.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
(AND DEPUTY SURVEYOR)

E. B. MILLER
Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary
Inspectors Joint Board; Cert. Inspn. of Meat
and Other Foods.

SECRETARY

MRS. J. HUDSON

TABLE 1 (C)

VITAL STATISTICS, NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

	1971	
Area of District (land and inland water)	2,055 acres	
Highest Point — near water tower at the Swillett	410.6 feet	
Lowest Point — junction of Meadow Way and Belfry Lane	160.3 feet	
Estimated mid-year population	8,500	
Number of inhabited dwellings	2,664	
Rateable value	£532,761	
Sum represented by penny rate	£5,280	
		Average 1961/70
Number of Births	93	81
Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	10.9	10.7
Area comparability factor	1.05	-
Standardised Birth Rate	11.4	10.9
Number of illegitimate births	4	4
Percentage of illegitimate births	4	4.9
Number of Deaths	64	50
Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	7.5	6.6
Area comparability factor	1.08	-
Standardised Death Rate	8.1	7.3
Natural increase of population (excess of births over deaths in year) ..	29	31
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year	1	1
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	11	15.3
Number of deaths of infants under 1 month	-	1
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths of infants under 1 month per 1,000 live births)	-	11.9
Number of deaths of infants under 1 week	-	1
Early neonatal mortality rate (deaths of infants under 1 week per 1,000 live births)	-	10.6
Number of stillbirths	2	1
Stillbirth rate (per 1,000 births, live and still)	21	13.5
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and early neonatal deaths) ..	21	23.9

TABLE II (C)

TABLE SHOWING VARIOUS STATISTICAL DATA FOR CHORLEYWOOD URBAN DISTRICT 1961-1970

Year	Population	Number of Births	Crude Birth Rate	Area com-parability factor	Standardised Birth Rate	Number of Deaths	Crude Death Rate	Area com-parability factor	Standardised Death Rate	Natural increased population	
1961	6,960	83	12.0	0.94	11.3	43	6.2	1.10	6.8	40	
1962	7,050	91	12.9	0.94	12.1	44	6.2	1.10	6.8	47	
1963	7,100	79	11.1	0.94	10.4	57	8.0	1.13	9.0	22	
1964	7,420	108	14.6	1.05	15.3	45	6.1	1.13	6.9	63	
1965	7,590	82	10.8	1.05	11.3	60	7.9	1.13	8.9	22	
1966	7,670	78	10.2	1.05	10.7	51	6.6	1.13	7.5	27	
1967	7,730	80	10.3	1.05	10.8	50	6.5	1.12	7.3	30	
1968	7,950	70	8.8	1.05	9.2	65	8.2	1.08	8.8	5	
1969	8,100	65	8.0	1.05	8.4	43	5.3	1.12	5.9	22	
1970	8,260	72	8.7	1.05	9.1	41	5.0	1.08	5.4	31	
Average	7,583	81	10.7	-	10.9	50	6.6	-	7.3	31	
Year	Deaths under 1 year	Infant mortality rate	Number of deaths of infants under 1 month	Neonatal mortality	Number of deaths of infants under 1 week	Early neonatal mortality	Number of stillbirths	Stillbirth rate	Perinatal mortality	Number of maternal deaths	Maternal mortality rate
1961	1	12.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	2	23.5	23.5	-	-
1962	1	11.0	1	11.0	1	11.0	1	10.9	22.0	-	-
1963	3	38.0	3	38.0	3	38.0	1	12.5	50.0	-	-
1964	3	27.8	2	18.5	2	18.5	1	9.2	27.5	-	-
1965	2	24.4	2	24.4	2	24.4	2	23.8	47.6	-	-
1966	2	25.6	1	12.8	-	0.0	1	12.7	12.7	-	-
1967	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1968	1	14.0	1	14.0	1	14.0	2	28	42	-	-
1969	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1970	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	14.0	14.0	-	-
Average	1	15.3	1	11.9	1	10.6	1	13.5	23.9	-	-

TABLE III (C)

DEATHS

Cause of death	Sex	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	Age in Years								75 & over	
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74		
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1
Other malignant neoplasms	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diabetes mellitus	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mental disorders	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Hypertensive disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ischaemic heart disease	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	3
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Other forms of heart disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Cerebrovascular disease	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6
Other diseases of circulatory system	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
	F	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Peptic ulcer	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
All other external causes	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	31	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	4	9	16
	F	33	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	5	23

TABLE IV (C)

NUMBER OF CASES AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CASES
OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1971

Age Group	Measles	Whooping Cough
Under 1	-	-
1—	2	-
2—	1	-
3—	1	-
4—	2	-
5 — 9	5	-
10 — 14	-	1
15 — 24	2	-
25 and over	-	1
	13	2

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

HOUSING CONDITIONS

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses							
a. Total number of houses inspected (Public Health or Housing Acts)							34
b. Number of inspections made for the purpose	..	..	..	..	..	..	70
2. Action Taken							
a. Clearance Areas declared	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
b. Unfit houses included in a. above	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
c. Individual houses demolished	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
d. Individual houses closed	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
e. Parts of buildings closed	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
f. Dwellings rendered fit after:—							
i. Informal action	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
ii. Formal action	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
3. Overcrowding							
a. Cases brought forward from previous year	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
b. Premises found to be overcrowded during the year	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
c. Cases of overcrowding abated	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
4. Certificates of Disrepair							
a. Certificates of Disrepair, issued	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
b. Certificates of Disrepair, cancelled	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
c. Certificates of Disrepair, proposed to issue	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
5. Qualification Certificates							
a. Certificates issued	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
b. Certificates refused	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
c. Provisional Certificates issued	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
6. Improvement Grants							
a. Applications made	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
b. Schemes completed	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
7. Number of Houses and Flats Erected During the Year							
a. By the Local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
b. By other Authorities and Organisations	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
c. By private persons.	..	..	..	..	..	..	23

Housing — Improvements

Applications for Improvement and Standard Grants increased over the previous year — a welcome trend following the introduction of the Housing Act 1969, which provided not only higher grants for improvements to dwellings but also introduced grant-aid for repairs necessary to extend the life of the dwelling, and discontinued repayment conditions which the Government considered had led to a reluctance by owners to apply for grant-aid.

The great majority of applications, however, continue to be received from owner/occupiers. The Department also issued guidance and carried out informal inspections of houses on request so that owners were aware of what works would attract grant-aid before formal application was made.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no such houses in the district.

Caravan Sites

There are no licensed caravan sites in the district.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of the District is provided by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company. The water supply to the Chorleywood area emanates from boreholes in the chalk and is typical chalk water, somewhat hard in character but organically very pure. It is not more than negligibly plumbo-solvent and its fluoride content is less than 0.1ppm. Fluoride is not added to the supply.

The only treatment given to the water is a small dose of chlorine (0.1ppm.) as a precaution against the possibility of bacterial contamination. Samples of water taken during the year were regularly of the highest bacteriological quality.

There is only one dwelling provided with water from a standpipe but a piped indoor supply is planned with the aid of an improvement grant.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Public Conveniences

The Council provides public conveniences for Men and Women on Road A404 opposite Chorleywood Common; it is to be regretted that in order to reduce vandalism these conveniences are closed at dusk.

Dwellings not connected to the Public Sewer

There are 40 properties in the District which are not connected to the public sewer.

The sewer is physically available to serve 14 of these properties, eight properties are drained by small scale sewage disposal plants and the remaining 18 properties cannot, at the moment, be connected to the sewer.

During the year under review one house, which had previously been drained to a cesspool, was connected to the sewer.

Twenty-four private drains were cleared of blockages at the owner's expense by Council labour during the year, a small proportion being emergencies dealt with outside working hours in the evenings or weekends.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

Refuse Collection is carried out by a direct labour force of six men. Three 18 cu.yd. dual tip vehicles were in use, and in June the Council purchased a Shelvoke & Drewry 35 cu.yd. "Pakamatic" refuse vehicle which proved highly satisfactory in providing virtually dust free loading and a larger work load, thereby reducing the time spent on travelling to the tip. This vehicle, together with one dual tip vehicle, was sufficient to maintain a weekly collection.

A bonus scheme is operated by the Council.

A weekly trade refuse collection is undertaken from commercial premises and a small charge is made for this service.

Disposal is by means of controlled tipping at a tip situated at Wapseys Wood Pit, Gerrards Cross. In co-operation with the Amersham Rural District Council, all refuse is dumped in the first instance at their London Road Depot and is then conveyed by means of bulk transporters to the Gerrards Cross tip.

Bulky Litter Collection

A heavy litter collection has been in operation for the past nine years. The object of this service is to give facilities to householders to get rid of accumulations of heavy litter. This service is free and is operated by the normal refuse collection staff on Saturday mornings; it is a "Special Service" and not more than one collection is made from any one property during the year. There is a great demand for the service and it appears to be greatly appreciated by the ratepayers.

Owners who wished to dispose of their old vehicles or bulky refuse were able to take advantage of the Council Scheme and dispose, free of charge, at the Amersham tip. Arrangements were made for vehicles which could not be driven or towed to the tip to be removed by the Amersham R.D.C. hi-loader and the owners paid a small fixed charge for this service. Twelve vehicles were dealt with during the year in this way.

One vehicle was found abandoned in the district and was disposed of in accordance with the Removal and Disposal of Vehicles Regulations, 1968.

FOOD HYGIENE

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the District.

Food sampling

Food sampling in the district is carried out by the County Council as Food and Drugs Authority. Samples taken in 1971 were as follows :—

Milk	..	..	9	All Genuine
Others	..	..	21	Genuine
			3	Not Genuine

Details:

Genuine	Beefburgers, Haddock Fillets, Savoury Fish Cakes, Short Pastry, Buttock Steak, Delrosa, Pork Sausages, Rum, Cranberry Orange Relish, Coloured Coffee Sugar, Lancashire Hot Pot, Dried Sliced Onions, Minced Beef and Vegetables, Pepper, Rosemary, Ratatouille, Snibs, Creamed Tomato Soup, Malt Milk Biscuits, Minced Beef Loaf, Gin.			
Not genuine	30% Bran Flakes	—	contained wheat flour not specified in statement of ingredients. Labelling amended.	
	Whisky	—	contained 8% added water. Fined £20.	
	Gin	—	contained 1% added water — warning.	

Food — Complaints

Complaints were received from purchasers about (a) metal object in a ½lb pack of butter, (b) a defective can containing pork luncheon meat, and (c) bread rolls containing 'Maw' seeds.

Investigations were made at the shops concerned and the complaints were also taken up with the suppliers. A report on complaint (a) was made to the Public Health Committee, who decided to warn the manufacturer.

Food Premises

Routine inspections were continued of food premises in the District and every effort was made to encourage food handlers to maintain care in their work.

The following table sets out the number and type of food premises in the District, together with the number of inspections made :—

Type of Business	Number in District			Number of inspections made
Bakehouses	1
Butchers	3
Canteens, Factory	1
Canteens, School	5
Fishmongers	1
Grocers, Retail	5
Hotels and Guest Houses	1
Public Houses	6
Licensed Clubs	3
Miscellaneous Premises (sweets, etc.)	4

Ice-Cream

There are no premises registered for the manufacture of ice-cream. Seven premises are registered for the sale of wrapped ice-cream only.

Poultry Processing Premises

There are no poultry processing premises within the District.

Game Licences

No licences were issued to dealers in the District during the year.

Food Poisoning

There were no cases of Food Poisoning during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

	Local Authority Depots etc.	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other including Business & Industry	Total
1. Total number of properties in L.A.'s District	2	2,678	13	293	2,986
2. Number of properties inspected by L.A. as a result					
a. of notification	-	40	-	-	40
b. otherwise	-	-	-	-	-
3. Number of properties (under 2) found to be infected by rats					
a. Major	-	-	-	-	-
b. Minor	-	28	-	-	28
4. Number of properties (under 2) found to be infested by mice					
a. Major	-	-	-	-	-
b. Minor	-	3	-	-	3
5. Number of infested properties (under 3 & 4) treated by L.A.	-	31	-	-	31
6. Number of notices served under Section 4 for					
a. Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
b. Structural works	-	-	-	-	-

7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. following issue of notice under S.4 — 0.
8. Legal Proceedings — 0.
9. Number of "block control" schemes carried out — 0.

One hundred and ninety-eight complaints were received regarding wasps and 188 nests were destroyed. Advice and treatment of insect infestations were also carried out during the year.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Below is given an analysis of the annual return of premises registered by the L.A. under the Act :—

Type of premises registered	No. of premises	No. of persons employed	No. of inspections
Offices	11	79	5
Retail Shops	19	63	12
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	-	3	-
Catering Establishments open to the public, Canteens	3	27	2
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-

No accidents were notified to the Local Authority during the year.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	1	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	14	9	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	15	10	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found: 4 (Sanitary conveniences found insufficient, defective and not separate for sexes).

Defects remedied: Nil.

3. Outworks, S.110(i)(c): Number — Nil. Notices, etc.: Nil.

RICKMANSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE 1971/72

Councillors L. V. Reason (Chairman)
Dr. P. S. B. Russell (Vice-Chairman)
E. H. Cox
S. R. Evans, M.A.(Cantab.)
Mrs. G. Fenton
R. E. Groves
E. W. Harris
N. C. Young

STAFF

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

F. W. KEENE
Cert. Royal Society of Health and Public Health
Inspectors Joint Board, Cert. Insp. Meat & Other
Foods, Cert. of Smoke Inspn.

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

D. C. CAHILL
Cert. Royal Society of Health and Public Health
Inspectors Joint Board, Cert. Insp. Meat & Other
Foods, Cert. of Smoke Inspn.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

W. HUMBER
Cert. Royal Society of Health and Public Health
Inspectors Joint Board, Cert. Insp. Meat & Other
Foods.

SECRETARY

MISS D. J. SACHEL

TABLE 1 (R)

VITAL STATISTICS, NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

					1971	
Area of District (land and inland water)	..	..	..	..	7,639 acres	
Highest Point — Long Lane at junction with Chorleywood boundary	..				410 feet	
Lowest Point — Buckinghamshire County Boundary on A412	..				130 feet	
Estimated mid-year population	..	..	..	..	29,670	
Number of inhabited dwellings	..	..	..	..	9,722	
Rateable value	..	..	..	..	£2,353,282	
Sum represented by penny rate	..	..	..	..	£22,900	
						Average 1961/70
Number of births	..	..	..	..	377	428
Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	..	..	..	..	12.7	14.3
Area comparability factor	..	..	..	..	1.07	-
Standardised birth rate	..	..	..	..	13.6	15.0
Number of illegitimate births	..	..	..	..	22	19
Percentage of illegitimate births	..	..	..	..	6.0	4.4
Number of deaths	..	..	..	..	290	269
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population)	..	..	..	..	9.8	8.9
Area comparability factor	..	..	..	..	1.18	-
Standardised death rate	..	..	..	..	11.6	10.6
Natural increase of population (excess of births over deaths in year)	..				87	160
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year	..	..	..	..	10	7
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	..	..	..	..	27	15.5
Number of deaths of infants under 1 month	..	..	..	..	7	5
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths of infants under 1 month per 1,000 live births)	..	..	..	..	19	11.3
Number of deaths of infants under 1 week	..	..	..	..	7	4
Early neonatal mortality rate (deaths of infants under 1 week per 1,000 live births)	..	..	..	..	19	9.6
Number of stillbirths	..	..	..	..	2	4
Stillbirth rate (per 1,000 births, live and still)	..	..	..	..	5	9.5
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and early neonatal deaths)	..			..	24	17.1

TABLE II (R)

TABLE SHOWING VARIOUS STATISTICAL DATA FOR RICKMANSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT 1961-1970

Year	Population	Number of Births	Crude Birth Rate	Area com-parability factor	Standardised Birth Rate	Number of Deaths	Crude Death Rate	Area com-parability factor	Standardised Death Rate	Natural increased Population
1961	28,850	480	16.6	1.00	16.6	242	8.4	1.25	10.5	238
1962	29,320	453	15.5	1.00	15.5	271	9.2	1.25	10.3	182
1963	29,690	449	15.1	1.01	15.3	288	9.7	1.19	11.5	161
1964	30,130	460	15.3	1.07	16.4	251	8.3	1.19	9.9	209
1965	30,270	449	14.8	1.07	15.8	277	9.2	1.19	10.9	172
1966	30,290	455	15.0	1.07	16.0	262	8.6	1.19	10.2	193
1967	30,290	382	12.6	1.07	13.5	279	9.2	1.18	10.9	103
1968	30,360	407	13.4	1.07	14.3	262	8.6	1.20	10.3	145
1969	30,360	359	11.8	1.07	12.6	259	8.5	1.18	10.0	100
1970	30,280	389	12.8	1.07	13.7	295	9.7	1.18	11.4	94
Average	29,984	428	14.3	-	15.0	269	8.9	-	10.6	160

Year	Deaths under 1 year	Infant mortality rate	No. of deaths of infants under 1 month	Neonatal mortality	No. of deaths of infants under 1 week	Early neonatal mortality	Number of stillbirths	Stillbirth rate	Perinatal mortality	Number of maternal deaths	Maternal mortality rate
1961	5	10.4	2	4.0	2	4.0	7	14.4	18.5	-	-
1962	11	24.3	9	19.9	8	17.7	4	8.8	26.3	-	-
1963	6	13.4	4	8.9	3	6.7	4	8.8	15.5	-	-
1964	9	19.6	8	17.4	7	15.2	4	8.6	23.7	-	-
1965	7	15.6	6	13.4	5	11.1	7	15.4	26.3	-	-
1966	8	17.6	7	15.4	7	15.4	2	4.4	19.7	-	-
1967	7	18.3	5	13.1	3	7.9	5	12.9	20.7	-	-
1968	5	12.0	3	7.4	2	4.9	7	17.0	22.0	-	-
1969	2	6.0	1	3.0	1	3.0	-	-	3.0	-	-
1970	7	18.0	1	10.0	4	10.0	2	5.0	15.0	-	-
Average	7	15.5	5	11.3	4	9.6	4	9.5	17.1	-	-

TABLE III (R)

DEATHS 1971

Cause of death	Sex	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	Age in years										
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 & over		
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	M	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity etc.	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, larynx	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	3	2	2
	F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	5	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	2	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, Uterus	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Other malignant neoplasms	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	1	2	-
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	2	-	-	-
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Diabetes mellitus	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Mental disorders	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Other diseases of nervous system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chronic Rheumatic heart disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1

Cause of death	Sex	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	Age in years								75 & over
					Age in years								
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	
Hypertensive disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	11	
Ischaemic heart disease	M	42	-	-	-	-	1	7	10	13	5	14	
	F	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	
Other forms of heart disease	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	6	
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	11	
Cerebrovascular disease	M	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	3	22	
	F	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Other diseases of circulatory system	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	5	5	
	F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	
Pneumonia	M	9	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	5	
	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	
Bronchitis and emphysema	M	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	-	2	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	
Asthma	M	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other diseases of respiratory system	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Peptic ulcer	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Other diseases of digestive system	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Hyperplasia of prostate	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Congenital anomalies	M	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Cause of death	Sex	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	Age in years							75 & over	
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64		65-74
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other causes of perinatal mortality	M	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	M	6	-	-	-	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
All other accidents	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	M	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
All other external causes	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	150	4	2	1	1	4	4	13	25	44	51	
	F	140	3	1	-	-	1	3	7	22	35	67	

TABLE IV (R)

NUMBER OF CASES AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
(INCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1971

Age Group	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Food Poisoning	Infective Hepatitis
Under 1	3	-	-	-	-
1 —	3	1	-	-	-
2 —	5	-	1	-	-
3 —	5	-	-	-	-
4 —	8	-	-	-	-
5 — 9	41	-	-	-	-
10 — 14	2	-	-	-	1
15 — 24	-	-	-	-	-
25 and over	-	-	-	1	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	67	1	1	1	1

(The age distribution for tuberculosis is shown in Table IX)

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Introduction It has been said that there is nothing new under the sun. Whilst that statement remains a largely philosophical truth, the environment is changing at an ever increasing pace and causing new problems. Some, like noise and fumes from motor vehicles, are at once obvious, although their solution is not so patent: others, although less dramatic, are nonetheless real, such as the still-too-high level of sulphur dioxide in the air. Some again can be dealt with by changes in the law; others have as yet no acceptable practical or technical solutions. The maintenance of a satisfactory environment is often a question of preserving a fine balance between conflicting factors. An example of this was the continuing existence in 1971 of bird schistosome cercariae in Bury Lake, a possible control for which lay in the use of chemical molluscicides. The threat such treatment posed to the drinking water supplies, the abundant wild life in and surrounding the lake and the otherwise attractive environment of The Aquadrome was considered too high a price to pay for securing safe bathing for the minority of human beings affected by dermatitis.

The spate of new legislation affecting public health continued in 1971 which saw new laws on dust and grit from industrial chimneys, food standards, housing, hairdressing premises — to name but a few.

However satisfactory the general environment of districts like Rickmansworth appear superficially to be, 1971 still produced a number of the same problems to control which “Inspectors of Nuisances” were appointed over 100 years ago. Fortunately we now know how to prevent our refuse, drainage systems and food and drink from causing serious outbreaks of disease but the price of good environmental health, as of freedom, is eternal vigilance.

WATER SUPPLY

Domestic Supply All but a few isolated premises in the district are supplied by 2 statutory water undertakings. The water supplied by these companies was satisfactory in quality and quantity and was not liable to plumbo-solvency. The natural fluoride content in the raw water did not exceed 0.1p.p.m. and no additional fluoride was added. The two companies carry out regular routine chemical analyses and bacteriological examinations of the raw water and 3 sporadic checks made during the year by the Department were satisfactory. Six dwelling houses and two factories only were not supplied by a piped water supply and 15 samples taken for bacteriological examination of the bores and wells were satisfactory.

Swimming Pools At the end of 1971, 2 private and 5 County schools and 1 recreational club had their own swimming pools. All these pools had water circulation and chlorination equipment and emphasis was placed by the Department on checking chlorine levels in the pools during the swimming season. A number of samples were taken for bacteriological examination as a check on water purity; 2 were unsatisfactory from one pool due to temporary failure of the chlorine equipment.

The Aquadrome Members of the public have swum in Bury Lake at the Council owned Aquadrome for many years without ill effects.

The problem of cercarial infestation in this lake which caused “swimmer’s itch” in 1970 continued. Biologists from the Medical Research Council, Mill Hill, again confirmed the presence of cercariae of a bird schistosome and the Council considered several courses of action. These included (1) a total ban on swimming in this lake; (2) treating the water

with molluscicides and (3) the provision of alternative swimming facilities. Although expert opinion was obtained from a reputable company experienced in the use of chemical molluscicides abroad, it was decided that the risk to the environment in general and the water supply in particular did not warrant the use of chemical treatment in this lake. In the short term therefore, it was decided to ban all swimming at Bury Lake and in the meantime to have further intensive investigations into the problem carried out by biologists. In the long term it was further decided to explore the possibility of a swimming pool being provided with filtered and chlorinated water.

HOUSING

Unfit Dwellings	The Council made 3 Closing Orders on Nos. 95, 111 and 109 Norfolk Road, Rickmansworth.
Disrepair	<p>The number of complaints of disrepair from tenants continued to fall due to the general high standard of maintenance of houses in the district and the continuing trend towards owner-occupation.</p> <p>It was not necessary to use the new powers under Section 72 of the Housing Act 1969 but a considerable amount of repair work was carried out during the improvement of houses referred to elsewhere in this report.</p>
Improvement of Houses	<p>The number of applications for grants showed a slight increase on that for the previous year. The general standard of housing in the district is perhaps above the national average and the main problem in relation to private housing remains the persuasion of a number of owner-occupiers, mainly elderly, to improve their houses to the "12 point standard". Further progress was made but the "hard core" of the problem is now becoming more difficult. At the end of the year the Council again decided to publicise the grant scheme and since it was possible from an earlier survey to identify the unimproved houses, it was decided to write directly to the owners asking them to apply for grants.</p> <p>A notice was served on one owner-occupier to connect his premises to the public sewer under Section 47 of the Public Health Act 1936</p>
Qualification Certificates	<p>The Department deals with applications under the Housing Act 1969. 60 applications were received and 20 certificates were issued during the year. It is the normal practice to give an owner a chance to carry out relatively minor repairs before a formal refusal is given but, nevertheless, in 3 cases applications were formally refused.</p> <p>The procedure for dealing with qualification certificates, although in some respects cumbersome, has had the beneficial effect of securing substantial repairs and in some cases improvements to properties beginning to fall into disrepair. In 3 cases, combined applications were received for qualification certificates and improvement grants.</p> <p>It is also administratively advantageous when the Department deals wholly with improvement grants and qualification certificates.</p>
Overcrowding	As the general level of housing accommodation in the district is fairly high, there is no serious problem with overcrowding. There were no houses in multiple occupation at the end of the year.
Common Lodging Houses	There were no such houses in the district.
Caravans	Only 5 small privately owned sites containing 10 caravans were licensed by the Council. In addition there was a licensed site containing 6 permanent residential caravans and 12 showmen's caravans, the latter being only stationed on the site during the winter. Whilst a number of minor infringements of site licence conditions were dealt with, no serious problems arose at these sites or from itinerants.

Houseboats As a result of the coming into force of the British Waterways Act, 1971, and following discussions with British Waterways, the Council decided to have an inspection made of houseboats stationed on the canal and used for permanent residential purposes. The new legal powers enabled British Waterways to set standards for this type of housing accommodation including the provision of water supplies and waste disposal. It was intended by collaboration with British Waterways to draw up suitable standards not only to secure provision of proper sanitary services but also to deal appropriately with boats providing seriously sub-standard housing accommodation.

FOOD

Food Hygiene Routine inspections of all classes of food premises and of food vehicles were made during the year to check compliance with the relevant hygiene regulations. It was not necessary to take legal action, informal notices having sufficed to secure the necessary compliance.

Food Inspection (a) **Meat**

There were no slaughterhouses in the district and no notices of occasional slaughter were received during the year.

(b) **Poultry**

There were no poultry processing premises within the district in 1971.

(c) **Milk**

4 complaints only were received of dirt or other foreign matter in milk. In one case no action was taken, in two other cases warning letters were sent to the bottling firm, and in the fourth case the Council decided to institute legal proceedings.

By arrangement with the County Council and to avoid duplication of duties, all samples of milk to detect *Brucella Abortus* were taken by the County Council who have supplied the following information concerning Rickmansworth :—

(i)	No. of samples of raw milk examined	..	..	15
(ii)	No. found positive	..	..	4
(iii)	Action taken in respect of positive samples :			

Farms in question referred to the veterinary authorities.

Milk confirmed as being sent for heat treatment.

Farm employees advised against drinking raw milk.

(d) **Unsound Food**

23 complaints were received of the sale of unsatisfactory food (other than milk) of which 19 referred to foreign bodies, mould growth or other indications of staleness and/or decomposition. Thorough investigations were made of all complaints and 8 prosecutions were taken during the year, all of which were successful. (Details are shown at Table VII).

Although the number of cases reported to the Council represented less than 1 per 1,000 population, it is obvious that many more complaints are made directly by consumers to the traders concerned. There seems to be no diminution of the varieties and number of cases of unsatisfactory food sold to the public and it was no surprise that in the face of mounting demands by the public for fresher food, the Food Standards Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food and other organisations connected with or interested in the food trade were giving further consideration at the end of the year to the open-date stamping of food.

Food Poisoning	No cases were confirmed during the year.
Composition of Food and Drugs	<p>The Council is a Food and Drugs Authority.</p> <p>71 informal and 3 formal routine samples of foods were taken during the year. These samples included meat and fish products, preserved foods, flour and flour confectionery, dried cereals, sausages, milk and cream, soft drinks, alcoholic spirits and drugs. All routine samples sent for analysis by the Public Analyst were satisfactory with the exception of (1) a dry sauce mix requiring the addition of additional substances was incorrectly labelled and (2) pork sausages containing preservatives were not displayed with the appropriate preservative notice. Appropriate action was taken.</p> <p>Of samples submitted because of complaints from consumers the following were unsatisfactory. (1) a bottle of ginger beer contained a deposit of yeast and traces of ginger which was heavier than usual; (2) a packet of frozen peas contained large pellets of vegetable tissue including fragments of pea shell and vine. No formal action was taken on these samples but the complainants were informed of the results of the analyses.</p>
Pesticide Residues	The Council agreed to participate in 1972 in a nationwide sampling of foods for pesticide residues similar to that which took place in 1968.

AIR POLLUTION

Industrial Pollution	<p>Industrial air pollution in Rickmansworth is not a serious problem but a few individual boiler plants emitted smoke occasionally. The majority were modern oil-fired plant and usually operated well within the limits imposed by the Clean Air Acts. The difficulties experienced in 1970 from the operation and maintenance of a wood waste furnace were largely overcome in 1971 and the plant generally operated satisfactorily. It was necessary to serve formal notices in 3 cases for smoke nuisances due to burning waste materials on the ground.</p> <p>New Regulations issued in 1971 set standards and gave local authorities more effective powers to deal with grit and dust arising from the combustion of fuels. The Council authorised the service of a formal notice on 1 firm requiring them to measure the grit emission from their chimneys.</p> <p>The Clean Air Act 1968 gave local authorities greater control of industrial chimney heights. One application for approval of height of a new chimney at a factory in the town centre was approved subject to a condition requiring the use of a fuel oil with a very low content of sulphur. The attention of the County Council was also drawn during the year to the need to increase the height of a school canteen chimney or alternatively replace the existing solid fuel boiler by a gas-fired one, in an attempt to prevent nuisance from fumes particularly during the lighting-up period.</p>
Domestic Smoke Control	<p>This district is not situated in one of the designated "black areas". Although the Council has not declared formal smoke control areas, there is little doubt, both from visual observation and from recordings taken with smoke measuring apparatus over the last ten years, that the amount of smoke has continued to decline. This reflects the national trend. Although Rickmansworth has not a large overall domestic smoke problem there are areas of the district where the house chimneys still produce too much smoke. Standards of heating are, however, continually rising and most owners, when improving their houses, almost invariably install smokeless heating. Whether the rate of voluntary conversion to smokeless heating reduces or eliminates the need for compulsion remains to be seen.</p>

A feature of 1971 was the increase in the number of complaints from private householders of smoke nuisances from garden bonfires. The Council has not made bylaws controlling this type of nuisance and the complainants in each case were informed that possible action on the Council's part would depend on the degree of nuisance being caused. In a really bad case there is no reason why such a bonfire could not be dealt with formally under the Clean Air Acts but it is perhaps because we are a nation of gardeners that the majority of people still appear to tolerate nuisance from a garden bonfire.

PLACES OF WORK

Factories The Council's main responsibility relates in the majority of factories in this area to securing satisfactory water supply and sanitary accommodation, all the remaining provisions of the Act relating to the health, safety and welfare of employees being enforced by H.M. Inspector of Factories. It is customary for Public Health Inspectors when visiting factories also to inspect the canteens and deal with noise and air pollution from chimneys and factory processes where necessary.

A summary of the inspections made under the Factories Acts and of the number of outworkers in the district is set out in Table X.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

1. Registration and Inspection

The number of premises registered for the first time during the year and on the register at 31st December 1971 with the relevant numbers of persons employed are as follows :—

	Number of premises newly registered during the year	Registered Premises	No. of persons employed
Offices	2	97	1,008
Retail Shops	8	172	769
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	-	2	98
Catering Establishments and Canteens	3	33	178
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
	<u>13</u>	<u>304</u>	<u>2,053</u>

(856 males and 1,197 females)

It should be remembered that the above figures include only those premises to which the Act applies and excludes, for example, businesses in which employees work for less than 21 hours per week, businesses in which the only employees are related to the employer and offices in factories which are the responsibility of H.M. Inspector of Factories.

The non-notification of the opening of premises registerable under the Act is still a continuing problem seven years after the Act came into force and it is necessary for the Department always to be on the look out for un-registered premises.

2. Accidents

Only 1 accident was notified during 1971 and it seems that despite publicity and information, occupiers are as unaware of this provision in the law as the provisions regarding registration referred to above. All notified accidents are investigated and in the case in question informal action sufficed.

3. Hoists and Lifts Regulations

One notification was received regarding the non-compliance of a lift in licensed premises with the above Regulations. The matter was dealt with satisfactorily by informal action.

4. Enforcement

Routine inspections continued during the year and these were conveniently made during visits to shops under other legislation. After 7 years of operation it was apparent that standards were generally known to occupiers of premises and complied with, except in relatively minor respects such as the provision of first aid boxes, thermometers to indicate room temperatures, etc.

Shops Act 1950 The Department is responsible for the enforcement of the hours of closing and employment in certain shops. The enforcement of this Act presents certain difficulties and it is certainly legislation with which traders and members of the public generally have little sympathy and the enforcement of which occasionally causes frustration. No serious infringements of the Act were observed during the year.

MISCELLANEOUS

Petroleum Storage The Department was not responsible for the enforcement of the law relating to this subject, the necessary duties being undertaken by the Engineer & Surveyor.

Nuisances In 1971 the detection and abatement of public health nuisances still continued to be an important duty of the Public Health Inspectors. 888 nuisances of all kinds, e.g. obstructed drainage, accumulations of rubbish, insect pests, rodent infestations, etc. were satisfactorily dealt with and are referred to elsewhere in this report. (Table I)

Of these nuisances, perhaps the most important and difficult were those relating to noise both from commercial and industrial premises and from domestic activities. There is no doubt that the public are increasingly aware and critical of noise and the wide variety of complaints reflects this increasing awareness. The complaints ranged from industrial machinery operating 24 hours per day for 7 days per week to the flying of model aircraft by members of a club, and also included such nuisances as kennelled stray dogs barking all night at the local Police Station in close proximity to residential property. Again, most of the nuisances were fortunately resolved satisfactorily by informal action but the use of gas-operated bird scarers by a farmer trying to protect his crops from birds near to residential property was the subject of a formal notice being issued during the year under the Public Health (Recurring Nuisances) Act 1969. The expiry of this notice coincided with the end of the fruit-picking season and it was hoped that the farmer would make alternative arrangements for crop protection before the advent of the next fruit growing season.

The increasing concern of the Council with noise in general led the Council to join the Noise Abatement Society during the year. It is, however, unsatisfactory that the growing and perhaps the most irksome form of noise, that from commercial aircraft, cannot be dealt with by any local authority under existing legislation.

Other nuisances satisfactorily dealt with by informal action were those relating to the emission of steam from factory premises, offensive smells from the keeping of pigs, the deposit (uncovered) of asbestos waste on open ground and the discharge of surface and boiler blow-down water from a local factory into an inadequate watercourse system.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 A free service was again provided for the destruction of rats and mice on domestic premises but rodents on business premises were dealt with at the occupiers' expense.

Wasp nests were also dealt with on payment of a fee of 50p. 1971 was an exceptionally busy year for wasps nests and a record number of 280 were destroyed.

(Table XII sets out details of rat and mice infestations treated during the year).

Sewer Manholes A routine sewer treatment for rats was carried out in a selected number of lengths of foul sewer and small number of infested manholes were satisfactorily treated by Warfarin.
It is also pleasing to record that there was no evidence of any resistance of the local rat population to the anti-coagulant poison, Warfarin.

Pigeons The Council's Rodent Operative was again licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food in the use of narcotics which are employed against feral pigeons. Following the treatment in 1970 no further action was necessary at Baldwins Lane Bridge during 1971. There continues to be a need to deal with pigeons roosting under this bridge from time to time due to the refusal of the railway authorities to take action to prevent roosting.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 The sole boarding establishment in the district gave rise to no serious problems during the year. As a result of new recommendations of the British Veterinary Association, it was further anticipated that work would need to be done in the ensuing year to bring the premises to the new higher standards envisaged.

Pet Animals Act 1951 There remain only 2 premises licensed to keep pet animals. Both were satisfactorily kept and managed and no problems arose from them

Riding Establishments Act 1964 There were no such establishments in the district during the year.

Rag Flock & Other Filling Material Act 1951 There were no premises registered or licensable under this Act in the district.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Drainage and Sewerage The arrangements for sewerage of the district were generally satisfactory, well over 90% of the premises being sewered. Disposal continued to be efficiently carried out by the West Hertfordshire Main Drainage Authority.

The Council resolved to provide sewerage to part of West Hyde Village where a number of old cesspools were both inadequate in capacity and in some cases defective. A private firm of consultants were engaged to investigate and report on the scheme on behalf of the Council.

The occupiers of premises draining to septic tanks and cesspools continued to be responsible for their emptying and this was carried out without major complaint by a private firm of contractors. There remained in addition a number of septic tanks and cesspools mainly in satisfactory condition on the periphery of the district where sewers were not available and could not reasonably have been provided economically.

Refuse Collection The collection of house and trade refuse was under the control of the Engineer & Surveyor. A weekly collection of house refuse was maintained and, in certain cases, a twice weekly collection of trade refuse undertaken from commercial premises at the occupiers' expense.

Refuse Disposal The Engineer & Surveyor was responsible for the disposal of refuse which was carried out by controlled tipping at a private tip outside the district. The Council also arranged for special collections of bulky articles at a reasonable charge and for the disposal of disused motor vehicles.

Public Conveniences The cleaning and maintenance was controlled by the Engineer & Surveyor and despite vandalism the 3 public conveniences were kept in a reasonable condition. 5 other conveniences were situated in recreation grounds owned by the Council and were maintained by the Engineer & Surveyor.

APPENDIX

TABLE I

RECORDS OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS 1971

Complaints	..	..	..	..	..	..	430
DWELLINGS							
Public Health Act (disrepair)		..	..	..	..	..	49
Housing Act (disrepair)	..	..	..	..	..	..	61
Housing Act (improvement)		..	..	..	..	..	138
Movable dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
PLACES OF WORK							
Power Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Non-power Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963							
(a) Offices	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
(b) Retail Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
(c) Catering establishments and canteens		..	..	..	..	..	12
Revisits	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
SHOPS ACT	..	..	..	..	..	..	95
FOOD							
Food Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Food Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Ice-cream premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Restaurants, canteens, public houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	144
Retail food shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	101
Mobile shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Other food premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Food (adulteration) samples		..	..	..	..	..	74
Food (bacteriological) samples		..	..	..	..	..	25
AIR							
Industrial Smoke Control	..	..	..	..	..	..	96
Industrial observations	..	..	..	..	..	..	49

PUBLIC HEALTH

Accumulations	..	..	..	..	..	43
Animals and Birds	..	..	..	..	..	43
Canal/House Boats	..	..	..	..	..	12
Cesspools, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	13
Disinfestations	..	..	..	..	..	27
Deposits (dust/asbestos, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	61
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	303
Huts, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	11
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	45
Insect Pests	..	..	..	..	..	134
Offensive Odours	..	..	..	..	..	16
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	2
Refuse Disposal	..	..	..	..	..	15
Rivers, streams, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	28
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	16
Stables/Piggeries	..	..	..	..	..	1
Swimming Pools	..	..	..	..	..	18

OTHER ACTS

Pests Act	..	..	..	..	..	33
Animals Acts (Pets, Boarding and Riding Establishments)	..	..	..	..	..	8
Noise Abatement Act	..	..	..	..	..	125
Scrap Metal Dealers Act	..	..	..	..	..	28

MISCELLANEOUS

Control of Immigrants	..	..	..	..	..	5
Interviews	..	..	..	..	..	345
Attendance at Court	..	..	..	..	..	8
Lectures	..	..	..	..	..	2
Unclassified visits	..	..	..	..	..	253
Water Samples	..	..	..	..	..	24

TABLE II

HOUSING

Number of new dwellings erected by the Council during 1971	..	..	Nil
Number of new dwellings erected by private enterprise during 1971	..	..	75
Total number of dwellings built by Council since 1945	..	..	1,399
Total number of dwellings built by private enterprise since 1945	..	..	1,377
Number of Council dwellings occupied on 31st December 1971	..	..	1,859

TABLE III

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND OTHER UNFIT HOUSES

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
HOUSES DEMOLISHED IN CLEARANCE AREAS	-	-	-
HOUSES DEMOLISHED NOT IN CLEARANCE AREAS —			
As a result of formal procedure under Section 17(1) of the Housing Act 1957	-	-	-
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-
UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED			
Under Section 17(1) of the Housing Act 1957	3	6	2
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 of the Housing Act 1957	-	-	-
UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED		By Owner	By Local Authority
After informal action by local authority		39	-
After formal Notice under :—			
(a) Public Health Acts		-	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act 1957		2	-

TABLE IV

FOOD

Types of Food Premises within the Urban District
at 31st December 1971

Retail Food Shops	..	..	..	..	..	125
Hotels and Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	32
Cafes and Restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	36
Industrial and Commercial Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	13
School Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	17
Clubs	..	..	..	..	..	20
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	1
Food Factories	..	..	..	..	..	2

All these premises comply with Regulations 16 and 19
of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, where
applicable.

Food Premises Registered by the Council under
Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Ice-Cream Dealers	..	50
Preserved Food Manufacturers	..	19

TABLE V

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963/65

Licences for the sale of milk under the above Regulations were held as follows :—

Designated Milk		Dealers Licences
Untreated Milk	..	2
Pasteurised Milk	..	25
Sterilised Milk	..	9
Ultra Heat Treated Milk	..	13

All licence holders are registered as milk distributors.

TABLE VI

ICE-CREAM SAMPLES

Bacteriological Samples

Satisfactory	Grades 1 and 2	3
Unsatisfactory	Grades 3 and 4	1

TABLE VII

FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955

Legal Proceedings in respect of the preparation or sale of food

No.	Section	Alleged Offence	Result	Fines	Costs payable by Defendant
1	8 and 113	Mouldy Bread	Conviction	£25	£11
2	8	Mouldy Meat Pie	"	£30	£26
3	2	Mouldy Chocolate Eclair	"	£75	£11
4	2	Sour Cream	"	£25	£11
5	2	Mouldy Swiss Roll	"	£25	
6	2	Mouldy Bread	"	£25	
7	2	Mouldy Hovis Bread	"	£25	£11
8	2	Mouldy Danish Partry	"	£25	£11
9	2	Inset pupa in Milk	Awaiting hearing 1972		

TABLE VIII

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Infringements of Act in 79 premises inspected during 1971

Uncleanly condition of premises	..	..	..	..	6
Inadequate provision for maintaining reasonable temperature	..	..	..	..	1
Inadequate light or ventilation	..	..	..	..	3
Unsatisfactory sanitary conveniences or washing facilities	..	..	..	..	2
Inadequate hot water, clean towels etc. for hand-washing	..	..	..	..	1
Defective condition of floors or stairs	..	..	..	..	2
Failure to display prescribed Abstract of the Act	..	..	..	..	1
No thermometer	..	..	..	..	1
Other matters	..	..	..	..	2
					<u>19</u>

TABLE IX

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF ACCIDENTS NOTIFIED DURING 1971

Handling of goods	1
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TABLE X
FACTORIES ACT 1961

	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. INSPECTIONS				
Factories in which Sections 1, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authorities	5	-	-	-
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	<u>123</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>128</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND				
W.C. unsatisfactory/defective	1	-	-	-

TABLE XI
OUTWORK (SECTIONS 133 AND 134)

	No.of factories	No.of outworkers
Factories inside district employing outworkers outside the district	1	479
Factories inside district employing outworkers inside the district	1	9
Factories outside district employing outworkers inside the district	3	19

TABLE XII
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

1.	Number of properties in district	..	..	..	..	9,884
2.	(a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	..	..	..	..	211
	(b) Number infested by :—					
	(i) Rats	..	..	..	..	146
	(ii) Mice	..	..	..	..	27
3.	(a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	..	..	..	..	Nil
	(b) Number infested by :—					
	(i) Rats	..	..	..	..	Nil
	(ii) Mice	..	..	..	..	Nil

WATFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE – 1971/72

Councillors	Mrs. G. Morison (Chairman)
	Mrs. N. E. Blakiston (Vice-Chairman)
	(Resigned October 1971)
	G. T. Elam
	K. E. Gough
	S. N. Grigg (Died 23.9.71)
	G. W. Hawkins
	Mrs. M. Kitchingman
	E. H. Nimmo
	V. H. Rands
	Mrs. J. A. Taylor
	F. R. Wilson
	M. J. Young

STAFF

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	F. REEVE Cert. S. I. J. B.
DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	J. CABOURNE Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Inspn. of Meat & Other Foods, Cert. Smoke Inspn.
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS	F. VALENTINE Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Inspn. of Meat & Other Foods, Testamur Inst. P.C.
	A. V. SULLIVAN Dip. P.H.I.E.B.
	T. B. ROSAMOND Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Inspn. of Meat & Other Foods, Cert. San. Science
SENIOR CLERK	MISS M. HAMILTON

TABLE 1(W)

VITAL STATISTICS, NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

					1971		
Area of Civic Parishes —	Abbots Langley	..	..	..	5,558.9 acres		
	Aldenham	..	..	..	5,445.0 acres		
	Sarratt	..	..	..	4,587.4 acres		
	Watford Rural	..	..	..	<u>2,190.7 acres</u>		
Total area (land and inland water)		..	..	..	<u>17,782.0 acres</u>		
Estimated mid-year population					..	55,100	
Number of inhabited dwellings					..	16,120	
Rateable Value					..	£2,963,398	
Sum represented by penny rate					..	£29,020	
						Average 1961/70	
Number of births					..	542	743
Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population)					..	9.8	12.7
Area comparability factor					..	0.99	-
Standardised birth rate					..	9.7	12.2
Number of illegitimate births					..	49	54
Percentage of illegitimate births					..	7	7.3
Number of deaths					..	490	526
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population)					..	8.9	9.0
Area comparability factor					..	1.00	-
Standardised death rate					..	8.9	10.2
Natural increase of population (excess of births over deaths in year)					..	52	217
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year					..	4	12
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)					..	7	16.2
Number of deaths of infants under 1 month					..	3	9
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths of infants under 1 month per 1,000 live births)					..	6	12.1
Number of deaths of infants under 1 week					..	3	8
Early neonatal mortality rate (deaths of infants under 1 week per 1,000 live births)					..	6	10.1
Number of stillbirths					..	4	10
Stillbirth rate (per 1,000 births, live and still)					..	7	13.4
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and early neonatal deaths)					..	13	23.5

TABLE II (W)

TABLE SHOWING VARIOUS STATISTICAL DATA FOR WATFORD RURAL DISTRICT 1961-70

Year	Population	Number of Births	Crude birth rate	Area com-parability factor	Standardised birth rate	Number of deaths	Crude death rate	Area com-parability factor	Standardised death rate	Natural increased population
1961	58,770	870	14.8	0.89	13.2	510	8.7	1.22	10.6	360
1962	59,560	825	13.9	0.88	12.2	553	9.3	1.21	11.3	272
1963	60,000	826	13.8	0.98	13.5	535	8.9	1.15	10.2	291
1964	60,810	803	13.2	0.98	12.9	486	8.0	1.15	9.2	317
1965	60,910	733	12.0	0.98	11.8	537	8.8	1.15	10.1	196
1966	60,970	691	11.3	0.99	11.2	528	8.7	1.14	9.9	163
1967	61,200	714	11.7	0.99	11.6	526	8.6	1.13	9.7	188
1968	†54,170	708	12.8	0.99	12.7	550	9.9	1.06	10.5	158
1969	54,320	604	11.1	0.99	11.0	519	9.6	1.07	10.3	85
1970	54,660	652	11.9	0.99	11.8	513	9.4	1.10	10.3	139
Average	58,537	743	12.7		12.2	526	9.0		10.2	217

Year	Deaths under 1 year	Infant mortality rate	No. of deaths of infants under 1 month	Neonatal mortality	No. of deaths of infants under 1 week	Early neonatal mortality	Number of stillbirths	Stillbirth rate	Perinatal mortality	Number of maternal deaths	Maternal mortality rate
1961	18	20.7	15	17.2	13	14.9	15	16.9	31.6	-	-
1962	15	18.2	10	12.1	8	9.7	9	10.8	20.4	-	-
1963	18	21.8	15	18.2	13	15.7	13	15.5	31.0	-	-
1964	11	13.7	7	8.7	4	5.0	8	9.9	14.8	-	-
1965	10	13.6	7	9.5	5	6.8	10	13.5	20.2	-	-
1966	12	17.4	10	14.5	9	13.0	7	10.0	24.0	-	-
1967	15	21.0	12	16.8	11	15.4	13	17.9	33.0	-	-
1968	10	14.0	6	8.5	4	5.6	12	17.0	22.0	-	-
1969	6	10.0	2	3.3	2	3.3	7	11.0	15.0	-	-
1970	8	12.0	8	12.0	8	12.0	7	11.0	23.0	-	-
Average	12	16.2	9	12.1	8	10.1	10	13.4	23.5	-	-

† Vital statistics based on a calculated population of 55,410 due to boundary changes.

TABLE III (W)

DEATHS 1971

Cause of death	Sex	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	Age in years								75 & over
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	
Late effects of respiratory T B.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	M	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	5
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	1
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	11	8	9
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Leukaemia	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other malignant neoplasms	M	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	7	-
	F	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	-	6
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Diabetes mellitus	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Avitaminoses, etc.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other endocrine etc. diseases	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Anaemias	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mental disorders	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Other diseases of nervous system	M	6	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2

Cause of death	Sex	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	Age in years							75 & over	
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64		65-74
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
Hypertensive disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Ischaemic heart disease	M	58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	15	23	13
	F	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	23
Other forms of heart disease	M	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	10
	F	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	15
Cerebrovascular disease	M	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	4	14
	F	38	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	5	28
Other diseases of circulatory system	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6
	F	13	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	10
Pneumonia	M	18	-	-	2	-	1	1	1	1	3	4	7
	F	32	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	3	5	19
Bronchitis and emphysema	M	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	7	6
	F	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	8
Asthma	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
	F	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
Peptic ulcer	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Appendicitis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cirrhosis of liver	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Other diseases of digestive system	M	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

Cause of death	Sex	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	Age in years								65-74	75 & over
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64			
Congenital anomalies	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
	F	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
Other causes of perinatal mortality	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	M	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Motor vehicle accidents	M	8	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
All other accidents	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
	F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	M	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
All other external causes	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Total all causes	M	250	1	-	6	5	4	22	58	71	81			
	F	240	2	1	-	3	7	15	32	32	145			

TABLE IV (W)

NUMBER OF CASES AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
(EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1971

Age Group	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Infective Hepatitis	Malaria	Acute Meningitis
Under 1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
1 -	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 -	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 -	17	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 -	9	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	49	9	6	1	1	7	-	-
10 - 14	3	-	4	4	-	3	-	-
15 - 24	1	-	2	1	1	3	-	-
25 & over	-	-	-	1	2	7	1	1
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	91	15	13	7	5	20	1	1

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

HOUSING CONDITIONS

1.	Inspection of Dwelling Houses					
a.	Total number of houses inspected (Public Health and Housing Acts)					610
b.	Number of inspections made for the purpose					648
2.	Action Taken					
a.	Clearance areas declared					-
b.	Unfit houses included in a. above					-
c.	Individual houses demolished					2
d.	Individual houses closed					-
e.	Parts of buildings closed					-
f.	Dwellings rendered fit :—					
i.	Informal action					34
ii.	Formal action					-
3.	Overcrowding					
a.	Cases brought forward from previous year					-
b.	Premises found to be statutorily overcrowded during the year					5
c.	Cases of overcrowding abated					3
4.	Certificates of Disrepair					
a.	Certificates of Disrepair issued					-
b.	Undertakings given by landlord					-
c.	Certificates of Disrepair revoked					-
5.	Improvement Grants					
a.	Applications made for Discretionary Grants					10
b.	Grants approved					9
c.	Applications made for Standard Grants					13
d.	Grants approved					20

6. Housing Act 1969 — Qualification Certificates

The Housing Act, 1969, which came into effect generally on 25th August, 1969, contained special provisions for the removal from rent control of dwellings attaining a certain standard of repair and amenity, and for the fixing of a “regulated” rent in such cases, subject to the Local Authority granting to the landlord, on his application, of a “Qualification Certificate” for this purpose. In order to meet the required qualifying standard the dwelling must be provided [Sec. 44(1)] with the standard amenities [i.e. bath, wash-hand basin, sink (hot water supply to these fittings) and water-closet], to be in good repair having regard to its age, character and locality, and must be fit for human habitation.

If the dwelling is not so provided with the standard amenities, the landlord may apply [Sec. 44(2)] for a qualification certificate and at the same time submit plans and specification in respect of works necessary to satisfy the qualifying conditions.

(a) Standard amenities already provided: Sec. 44(1)

No. of applications under consideration at the beginning of year ..	16
No. of applications received during the year	15
No. of Qualification Certificates issued	8
No. of Qualification Certificates refused	6
No. of applications under consideration at the end of the year ..	15

(b) Improvement Cases: Sec. 44(2)

No. of applications under consideration at beginning of year	..	..	..	..	-
No. of applications received	..	..	..	..	6
No. of provisional certificates issued	..	..	..	..	6
No. of qualification certificates issued	..	..	..	..	-

7. Number of Houses and Flats Erected During the Year

a. By the Local Authority	..	..	..	..	166
b. By other Authorities and Organisations	..	..	..	..	-
c. By private persons	..	..	..	.. Houses	138
				Flats	28

8. Licensed Caravan Sites

There are four large sites in the Districts :—

Highview Caravan Park, Kings Langley	..	..	..	104 caravans
Newlands Caravan Site, Bedmond	..	..	..	60 caravans
Brookside, Eastbury Road, Oxhey	..	..	..	70 caravans
Langleyview Caravan Park, Abbots Langley	..	..	..	30 caravans

There are in addition 10 small sites accommodating 38 caravans in all.

A further five sites are subject to discontinuance and run-down procedure comprising 10 caravans.

WATER SUPPLY

Domestic Supply

The majority of the District is served by a public mains supply provided by :—

The Colne Valley Water Company
The Rickmansworth & Uxbridge Valley Water Company
The Watford Corporation Water Undertaking

Apart from 17 dwellings which have a water supply from private wells, the dwellings in the district are provided with a piped mains supply direct to the dwelling.

Eight samples of main water were submitted for bacteriological examination and found to be satisfactory.

Sixteen samples of private well water supplies were submitted for bacteriological examination, of which seven were of acceptable standard. The nine unsatisfactory results related to four dwellings served by private well supplies and in each case the contamination was traced to the distribution system and not the underground source of supply. Cleaning, sterilisation and protection of the storage and distribution system was successful in eliminating contamination.

Swimming Pools

There are no public swimming pools in the District. Three County Council schools have their own swimming pools. Routine samples from these are taken by the County Council and the results were satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Public Conveniences

The Council have provided public conveniences at Watling Street, Radlett; Station Approach, Oxhey; Oxhey Pavilion; and High Street, Abbots Langley.

In all these conveniences free hand washing facilities are available.

Building work proceeded during the year on construction of a new block of public conveniences in Oxhey Drive, South Oxhey and by the end of the year was almost completed and ready for opening to the general public.

Dwellings not connected

Number of dwellings not connected to a sewerage system at the end of the year, the system of sanitation being :—

Parish	Cesspool	Pail type closet
Abbots Langley	64	12
Aldenham	69	5
Sarratt	64	27
Watford Rural	15	4
	212	48

General

The sewerage systems serving the Rural District discharge into the trunk sewers of the West Hertfordshire Main Drainage Authority.

During the year work proceeded on a small scheme for the sewerage of the Delrow area of Aldenham Parish.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

(1) Domestic Refuse

This service is carried out by direct labour throughout most of the District. Nine refuse collection schedules are operated daily so as to ensure a regular weekly collection service. Modern refuse collection vehicles of the rear loading type are used for this purpose.

(2) Bulky Refuse

A free service is offered for the collection and disposal of bulky items of refuse (such as furniture, mattresses, etc.). This service is available, on request, to every householder resident in the District.

(3) Trade Refuse

A trade refuse collection service is also in operation and for this service a charge is made of 5p per bin other than the first bin.

(4) Reception Areas

Reception areas as required under the Civic Amenities Act, 1967, have been set up at each of the Council's depots at Aldenham, Oxhey and Abbots Langley.

(5) Roadside Rubbish

Clearance of rubbish deposited on roadside verges within the District is carried out as and when possible, using refuse collection vehicles and their crews on overtime working.

(6) Vehicle Surrender

A free service is provided for the reception and disposal by the Council of unwanted motor vehicles surrendered voluntarily by residents of the District together with the Registration Book for the vehicle which is returned to the appropriate Motor Taxation Department after the vehicle has been destroyed. During the year 28 voluntarily surrendered motor vehicles were dealt with in this way.

(7) Abandoned Motor Vehicles

Motor vehicles found as abandoned on roads or land in the open air within the District are dealt with under the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act, 1967, and the Removal and Disposal of Vehicles Regulations, 1968, as appropriate. Those classified as “wrecks” are removed and destroyed. In the case of “runners” a storage compound has been set up at the Council’s Aldenham Depot for their safe retention for the specified period pending statutory enquiries and their ultimate disposal by sale or destruction as appropriate.

During the year 23 abandoned vehicles were dealt with under the provisions of the Act, of which 22 were treated as “wrecks” and one was classified as a “runner”.

Refuse Disposal

The Council’s Refuse Tip at Bedmond continued in use for the reception of domestic and trade refuse, and its disposal is by a closely supervised system of controlled tipping carried out in accordance with the Ministry recommended standards and to the satisfaction of the Hertfordshire County Council who have imposed stringent planning consent conditions with regard to the site.

Cesspool Emptying

There are a number of cesspools in outlying areas not served by main drainage facilities which require the maintaining of a regular emptying service, and these are dealt with by direct labour.

Pail Closet Emptying

This is undertaken by direct labour in the Parishes of Abbots Langley, Aldenham and Sarratt. Pail closets are emptied weekly.

Productivity Bonus Scheme

Following the consideration of a feasibility study report on productivity in relation to the manual employees prepared by the Local Authorities Management Services and Computer Committee (LAMSAC) the Council resolved that a suitable productivity bonus scheme should be prepared. During the year a number of meetings took place involving representatives of the Council, Officers, Manual staff and the Trade Union concerned for this purpose.

FOOD HYGIENE

Food Condemned

The following foodstuffs were condemned following their voluntary surrender during the year :—

Carcase meat and offal	..	..	786 lbs.
Cooked meat and meat products	..	..	292 lbs.
Canned meat	..	..	269 lbs.
Other foodstuffs	..	..	190 lbs.
Frozen foodstuffs (due to freezer faults)	..	..	2,997 lbs.

Slaughterhouses

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the District.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Food Premises

Type of Premises	No. of premises	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 (Wash-hand basins)	No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies (Sinks)	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19 (Sinks)	No. of inspections made
Bakehouses	4	4	4	4	10
Bakers shops	12	12	12	12	25
Butchers	21	21	21	21	76
Confectioners	20	20	5	5	39
Factory canteens	15	15	15	15	30
Fishmongers	4	4	4	4	17
Fish fryers	3	3	3	3	5
Food manufacturers	1	1	1	1	12
Food warehouses	2	2	2	2	21
Greengrocers	17	16	17	17	44
Grocery shops	44	44	38	38	145
Licensed premises	36	36	36	36	86
Restaurants/cafes	14	14	14	14	73
School canteens	29	29	29	29	27
TOTALS	222	221	201	201	610

The following contraventions were remedied :—

Personal Cleanliness	..	..	..	..	..	-
Sanitary Conveniences						
a. Insufficient	..	..	..	..	..	1
b. Defective/Dirty	..	..	..	..	..	13
Premises						
a. Dirty condition	..	..	..	..	..	22
b. Defective conditions/Dirty	..	..	..	..	..	13
Washing facilities						
a. Insufficient	..	..	..	..	..	-
b. Defective/Dirty	..	..	..	..	..	4
Equipment						
a. Insufficient	..	..	..	..	..	3
b. Defective and/or Dirty	..	..	..	..	..	4

In no case where contraventions of the Regulations were found was it necessary to recommend the Council to consider taking legal proceedings.

Milk Supply

There are three dairies and 11 distributors of milk registered in the District.

Ice-Cream

Number of premises registered :—

a. For manufacture	..	..	..	..	..	-
b. For sale	..	..	..	..	..	94

Food Complaints

The following foodstuffs were the subject of complaints received from members of the public during the year concerning their condition, together with the action taken in each case :—

Milk	Match in bottle of pasteurised milk: warning letter to Dairy.
Meat pie	Contained paper label: Manufacturers fined £20 and £11 costs.
Christmas pudding	Contained cellophane: warning letter to manufacturers.
Biscuits	Contained metal disc; warning letter to manufacturers.
Lamb chop	Contained wire price tag: warning letter to manufacturers.
Canned Carrots	Mouldy: taken up informally with manufacturer.
Yoghourt	Mouldy: manufacturer fined £25 and £11 costs.
Yoghourt	Mouldy: manufacturer fined £25 and £11 costs.
Bread	Holed and damaged: taken up informally with Bakery.
Bread	Contained oil smears: warning letter to Bakery.
Milk Bottle	Discolouration on bottle: taken up informally with Dairy.
Hamburger	Contained portion of animal hide: dealt with informally.
Baby food	Contained sewing needle: manufacturer fined £30 and £98.41 costs.
Bread	Mouldy sandwich: no action taken.
Beefburger	Contained portion of animal hide: dealt with informally.
Bread	Mouldy 'Take & Bake' loaf: warning letter to Bakery.
Canned meat	Contained needle and pin: taken up informally with Importer.
Scotch pancake	Mouldy: warning letter to manufacturer.
Bread	Contained surgical dressing: Bakery fined £25 and £48.50 costs.
Milk	Contained length of wire: Dairy fined £25 and £13 costs.
Bread	Mouldy: warning to Bakery.
Bread	Mouldy: warning letter to Bakery.
Bread	Contained sliced up pencil: Bakery fined £25.
Fried fish	Charred larval remains on surface: Dealt with informally.
Canned oranges	Metallic taste: taken up informally with manufacturer.
Chicken croquette	Contained 'portion of blood vessel': dealt with informally.

Food Sampling (Bacteriological)

The following specimens were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination :—

Salad Cream	No pathogenic organisms isolated
Egg	No pathogenic organisms isolated
Cheese	No pathogenic organisms isolated
Beetroot	No pathogenic organisms isolated
Chocolate pudding	No pathogenic organisms isolated
Chocolate sauce	No pathogenic organisms isolated
Meat pie	No pathogenic organisms isolated
Whipped Cream Dessert	Failed Methylene Blue Test — Unsatisfactory
Whipped Cream Dessert	Satisfied Methylene Blue Test
Whipped Cream Dessert	Satisfied Methylene Blue Test
Liver & Bacon Paté	No significant growth of organisms
Ham & Tongue Paté	No significant growth of organisms
Ice Cream (Soft Serve)	Provisional Grade II — Satisfactory
Ice Cream (Soft Serve)	Provisional Grade III
Ice Cream	Provisional Grade I — Satisfactory
Ice Cream	Provisional Grade II — Satisfactory
Ice Cream	Provisional Grade II — Satisfactory
Ice Cream (Soft Serve)	Provisional Grade II — Satisfactory
Ice Cream (Soft Serve)	Provisional Grade I — Satisfactory
Ice Cream	Provisional Grade I — Satisfactory
Ice Cream	Provisional Grade I — Satisfactory

The Watford Rural District Council is not a sampling authority under the Food and Drugs Act. Routine Sampling has been carried out by the County Council, to whom we are indebted for the following details :—

Milk	..	53 Genuine Nil Not Genuine
Others	..	49 Genuine 3 Not Genuine

Genuine :

Guinness (2); Pork Pie; Puff Pastry; Malt Vinegar; Currants; Chipples; Special Blended Butter; American Lard (2); Low Fat Yoghourt (Blackcurrant); 18% Butterfat Milk Top; Table Jelly (Lemon Flavour); Midget Pickled Gherkins; Orange Drink; Piccalilli; Blancmange Power (Chocolate); Caramel Top Dessert; Danish Milk Top (18% butterfat); H.P. Sauce, Coconut Madeira Cake; Pineapple Juice (2); Pork Sausages; Coffee Iced Gateau; Fruity Oats; Cheese Spread; Herring Fillets in Wine Sauce; Salted Cashews; Pure Dairy Cream; Tomato Juice; Fruit Flavours; Sweetened Grapefruit Juice; Cling Peaches; Whole Peeled Apricots; Halibut; Fluted Loaf; Steak and Kidney Pudding; Skipjack Tuna; Cheese Spread Cocktail Cubes; Accacia Blossom Honey; Chicken Breast in Jelly; Creamed Semolina Milk Pudding; Ground White Pepper; Diced Fruit Salad; Potato Puffs; Syrup Sponge Pudding; Blackcurrant Jam; Ground Pimento.

Redi-Milk	Contained excessive moisture – warning.
Turog Fluted Cut Loaf	had patches of mould growth – warning.
Devon Custard	made with skimmed milk whereas label described product as ‘creamy custard’ and specified in list of ingredients ‘fresh milk’. Negotiation continuing.

Rodent Control

The work done during the year under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, is recorded in the following section :—

Properties other than Sewers		TYPE OF PROPERTY	
		Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1.	Number of properties in District	18,521	185
2.	a. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	271	5
	b. Number infested by (i) Rats	175	5
	(ii) Mice	59	1
3.	a. Total number of properties (inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	523	152
	b. Number infested by (i) Rats	2	19
	(ii) Mice	-	1

The number of rat infestations requiring treatment during 1971 indicated an overall increase compared with the promising figures for 1970, although they were still an improvement on 1969.

Mouse activity also increased to something like the level of two years ago.

Regular treatment of black spot areas was maintained and a sewer treatment was carried out in the Aldenham Parish where a fairly extensive infestation was treated with satisfactory results.

Insect and Other Pests

52 visits were made to properties as a result of complaints received concerning insect infestations of various kinds.

Investigation, advice on precautions and treatment of the infestation were given in the following instances :—

Silverfish	..	..	1	Carpet Beetle	..	..	2
Earwigs	..	..	7	House Fly	..	..	6
Ants	..	..	9	Fruit Fly	..	..	4
Cockroach	..	..	1	Swarming Fly	..	..	1
Cluster Fly	..	..	2	Scabies Itch Mite	..	..	1
Lesser House Fly	..	..	3	Cockchafer	..	..	1
Dog Flea	..	..	9	Book Lice	..	..	1
Bed Bugs	..	..	2	Greenfly	..	..	2

Complaints of wasp infestation are investigated and dealt with by the Council's Rodent Operative and during the summer months 648 wasps nests were destroyed.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

During the year 64 smoke observations were carried out on factory and industrial incinerator chimneys in order to ensure that the requirements of the Clean Air Act and the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations were being satisfied. Whenever necessary, advice was given to plant engineers and boilerhouse personnel with a view to meeting the standards and reducing smoke emission to the minimum. In all cases the co-operation of management and staff was readily forthcoming and in no case was it found necessary to institute legal proceedings.

Attention is paid to the control of chimney height in respect of all proposed new furnace plant exceeding 55,000 B.t.u. in output in order to ensure adequate dispersal of the products of combustion. For this purpose, plans of all new buildings incorporating such furnace plant are referred to this Department for examination.

OFFICES AND SHOPS

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

This Act came into force during 1964, and the occupiers of premises to which it applies are required to register with the appropriate authority.

Registration and Inspection

	No. of premises Reg. at end of year	No. of general inspections
Offices	60	23
Retail shops	204	77
Wholesale shops, warehouses	2	1
Catering establishments	22	9
Fuel storage depots	3	1
Total	291	111

Number of visits of all kinds: 310

Number of Employees

Class of workplace	Number of persons employed	
	Male	Female
Offices	338	258
Retail shops	283	595
Wholesale departments, warehouses	6	-
Catering establishments open to the public	67	51
Canteens	-	-
Fuel storage depots	6	4
Total	700	908

Registration

During the year a further 11 premises were registered under Section 49 of the Act. The failure of occupiers of premises coming within the scope of the Act to apply for registration requires constant survey but compliance with the Section has, however, been readily forthcoming following informal action, and in no case has it been necessary to consider instituting proceedings.

Plans of all new buildings submitted for Building Regulation and Planning approval and likely to come within the scope of the Act are referred to the Chief Public Health Inspector for his observations in connection with the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. This has resulted in ensuring both immediate registration where necessary and compliance with the structural and other requirements of the Act in appropriate cases at the drawing board stage.

Enforcement of the Act

The public health department is responsible for the enforcement of the Act within the Watford Rural District, most of the inspectorial work being carried out by three Public Health Inspectors. No special, additional staff are employed for this purpose.

No particular difficulties have been experienced in securing the co-operation of occupiers and others concerned in bringing premises up to the required standard.

Accidents

Nine accidents occurred at premises registered under the Act during the year, each of which was properly notified to the local authority. The accidents involved injuries to two female and seven male employees as follows :—

- Female shop assistant accidentally fell sustaining bruises and sprained ankle.
- Female canteen worker slipped on greasy floor and dislocated her shoulder.
- Male shop assistant lacerated his finger on a piece of wire amongst trade refuse.
- Male driver fell from lorry while unloading, sustaining a fractured thigh.
- Male butchery assistant lacerated his hand with a knife while boning bacon.
- Male shop assistant dropped a 48 lbs. case of cheese he was lifting, bruising his fingers.
- Male butchery assistant cut his finger through careless use of a butchers steel.
- Male warehouseman bruised his eye on a piece of timber when crating up wine bottles.
- Male lorry driver sustained fractures to spine and pelvis when struck by a fork lift truck during the course of unloading of his vehicle.

Lighting

In the absence of specific lighting standards the recommended Standards of the Illuminating Engineering Society have been used as a guide and the co-operation of employers has been successfully sought on this basis.

FACTORIES

Factories Act, 1961

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	10	15	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	65	69	2	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	75	84	2	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
a. insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b. unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	1	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to home-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	3	-	1	-

(a) Sec. 133(i)(c)

No list of outworkers has been received from any occupier of a factory situated in the Rural District during the year.

(b) Sec. 134

Details of 42 outworkers residing in the Rural District were received during the year, the nature of the work they were engaged upon being as follows :—

Fireworks	...	2
Wearing apparel	...	11
Christmas novelties	...	25
Lampshades	...	1
Art supplies	...	1
Leather goods	...	1
Packaging	...	1
Total		42

No instance of outwork in unwholesome premises were found or brought to the department's attention during the year, nor was any outworker found to be suffering from a notifiable disease.

MISCELLANEOUS

Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises operating within the District.

Rag Flock and Other Fillings Act, 1951

There are no premises registered in the District under the Act.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Three premises are licensed in the District and each were inspected and found to be satisfactory.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

This Act, which came into operation on the 1st January, 1964, requires all animal boarding establishments to be licensed. Nine establishments are registered and 29 inspections were made during the year.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

The following complaints were investigated during the year :—

Noise Source		Number of Instances
Place of Entertainment	..	1
Engine Testing	..	1
Dry Cleaning	..	1
Motor vehicle repairs	..	1
Unmuffled road drill	..	2
Compressor motor	..	1

Sound level measurement equipment was used in appropriate cases and all instances were dealt with on an informal basis. In no instance was it found necessary to resort to the statutory powers available under the Act.

HEALTH SERVICES
IN
SOUTH WEST HERTFORDSHIRE
1971

REPORT OF THE
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

CONTENTS

	Page
Members of South West Hertfordshire Health Executive	2
Staff	3
Introduction	4
National Health Service Act 1946 — Local Health Services under Part III:	
Section 21 — Health Centres	6
Section 22 — Care of Mothers and Young Children	9
Section 23 — Midwifery	11
Section 24 — Health Visiting	12
Section 25 — Home Nursing	16
Section 26 — Immunisation and Vaccination	17
Section 28 — Prevention, Care and After-Care (including Health Education)	18
Appendix	21

STAFF

Divisional Medical Officer

A. Shaw, M.B., B. S., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Deputy Divisional Medical Officer

F. Barasi, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Medical Officers in Department

Jane J. C. Bond, M.B., Ch.B.

Margaret Fox, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Doris M. King, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H.

Joan A. Leigh, M.B., Ch.B.

Patricia Martin, M.B., B.S., D.Obst., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Mary Wehner, M.B., B.Ch., D.C.H.

This does not include a number of sessional doctors.

Divisional Nursing Officer

Mrs. D. Cantrill

Deputy Divisional Nursing Officer

Mrs. C. Bissell

Divisional Administrative Officer

Miss J. E. M. Sherlock

SOUTH WEST HERTFORDSHIRE HEALTH EXECUTIVE

Town Hall,
Watford.

September, 1972.

To the CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
SOUTH WEST HERTFORDSHIRE HEALTH EXECUTIVE

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting a brief annual report on part of the work of the staff of the Executive's Health Department in South West Hertfordshire. School health work is not included in this report, as is the custom, because the School Health Service is not delegated to the Executive. It is hoped that this report will also be incorporated into the Annual Reports of the Borough of Watford and the combined districts of Bushey, Chorleywood, Rickmansworth and Watford Rural District.

The tables in the Report indicate the volume of work carried out, each contact with a professional worker meaning many hours of patient casework with all sections of the population. In addition, much work is not recorded and it is well worthwhile remarking that much of the work of the new Social Services Department, including the time-consuming registration and supervision of nurseries and child-minders, still remains with the Health Department until the Social Services Department is equipped to undertake it.

At the time of writing this introduction the White Paper on National Health Service Reorganisation has just been published and this will be the subject of a special report to the Executive. I am sure that it is important that the Executive should remain in being until 1st April 1974 which is the appointed day. Only in this way will it be possible to maintain the corporate existence of an informed body of opinion on the Personal Health Services and on other services administered by the local health authority.

I am grateful to members of the Executive for their interest and courtesy during the year and, to colleagues in public health, general practice, and hospital, for their support and co-operation.

I am, Madam Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

A. SHAW
Divisional Medical Officer

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT 1946

Section 21	HEALTH CENTRES
Section 22	CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN
Section 23	MIDWIFERY
Section 24	HEALTH VISITING
Section 25	HOME NURSING
Section 26	IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION
Section 28	PREVENTION, CARE AND AFTER-CARE (Including Health Education)

SECTION 21

HEALTH CENTRES

- Development of the Health Centre Concept** The National Health Service Act lays upon local health authorities the duty to provide, equip and maintain health centres for all or any of the following services: general medical services; general dental services; pharmaceutical services; any of the services which the local health authority is required or empowered to provide, and specialist services. The idea of Health Centres was hinted at by Beatrice Webb in 1918, but it was not until 1920 that definite proposals were put forward by a British Medical Association Committee headed by Lord Dawson of Penn. Lord Dawson's Committee, which reported on the future provision of medical and allied services, recommended that personal health services should be provided by primary and secondary health centres. The primary health centres were to be staffed by general practitioners and were to offer preventive and curative services; the secondary health centres were to be hospitals with consultant staff.
- These proposals were shelved for 22 years and then revived in a modified form by the Medical Planning Commission of the British Medical Association in 1942. The changes proposed involved grouping of doctors in practice, a strong link with a local hospital, facilities for X-rays and pathological examinations in the Centres and apparently a take over of the local authority medical services.
- The Government White Paper in 1944 which followed the Beveridge Report accepted the health centre as necessary and the concept was included in the 1946 National Health Service Act. Enthusiasm ran high for a time and then died altogether. The reasons for this are easy to see.
- Woodberry Down Health Centre** One of the first health centres to be built was by the London County Council at Woodberry Down. Many reasons were put forward for its apparent lack of success including fears for the doctor-patient relationship, lack of security of tenure, progression to an eventual salaried service, but it is generally agreed now that the basic reason was that it was too expensive. In the early 1950's rent for an individual doctor's suite was £450 and by 1959 this had risen to £550. This was more than most general practitioners could afford or were willing to pay. A few other authorities tried brave experiments without conspicuous success, and many more held back in the face of general practitioner opposition. The situation changed dramatically in 1966 and again the reasons are easy to see.
- Charter for General Practice** For many years general practitioners had been dissatisfied with their pay and conditions of service. Working as they do on a contractual basis they considered they were overworked and underpaid. Repeated batterings on the gate of Government obduracy finally produced a Royal Commission which gave for a time a measure of industrial peace but the discontent with conditions of service continued unabated. Very large numbers of doctors emigrated to end their clinical isolation and to practise the sort of medicine they had been taught and it was this, rather than any other single factor, which made the Government realise that if it was not very careful there would be a National Health Service with no doctors to run it. Accordingly, 1966 produced the Charter for General Practice which, among many other things, made provision for partial reimbursement of practice premise expenses and the expense of ancillary help.

- Group Practice** Many doctors now realise that the days of single-handed practice are drawing to a close and recognise that the future of family medicine lies in group practice in which several practitioners work together in close association, consulting each other about their patients and often developing a special interest such as paediatrics, obstetrics or dermatology. Such groups often employ ancillary help and draw heavily on local authority services. It is a natural step from such a group practice to a health centre practice with a full range of local health authority services attached. This realisation, allied with the Charter, again aroused interest in Health Centres.
- Health Centres in South West Hertfordshire** There are no purpose-built health centres in the Division although there are three at various stages of gestation. A group of doctors in South Watford have found that their present premises have become increasingly inconvenient and have asked the County Council to find a site for a health centre and possible sites are being investigated. In Rickmansworth a possible site for a health centre awaits property acquisition and road widening works and in Radlett various sites are being investigated.
- Design of Health Centres** The design of health centres must incorporate the needs of the Local Health Authority, general practice, and to a certain extent specialist clinics. Local Health Authority use includes the traditional functions of public health, that is to say ante-natal, maternal and child welfare, school health, health education, dentistry and chiropody, together with district offices for health visitors and office accommodation for a district nurse. General practitioners require consulting rooms, examination cubicles, waiting room space and space for minor pathological procedures and minor operations. There must also be a focal point where all staff using the centre can meet and exchange information and experiences. It is possible also that some health centres will provide general dental and pharmaceutical services.
- Integration** Although the Local Health Authority has power to build health centres for general practitioners alone, this course of action should be followed only in the most unusual circumstances. Instead, the over-riding consideration should be as complete an integration as possible between public health and general practice. This will be largely accomplished by an increased use by general practitioners of health visitors and other local authority staff working from premises where integration is possible.
- Benefits of Health Centres** The benefits to public health of a closer co-operation are a clearer understanding by general practitioners of the benefits of preventive medicine and the fact that a large segment of the population not previously easily accessible to public health will now become accessible. This will extend the range of public health outside the mother and young child, the school child and the elderly, who have hitherto been our main pre-occupation. The general practitioner will, of course, benefit in a number of cases from better premises and more help, both para-medical and clerical. In any case the patient, to whom all this change is directed, will benefit from a better service. It may be that if health centres come to be the main form of practice premises the patient will have to travel further to consult his doctor, but with the increasing use of appointment systems, the increased distance travelled will be counter-balanced by a shorter wait to see his family doctor.

Specialist Services At one time specialist orthopaedic services were provided at most local authority clinics but now the only services remaining are ophthalmology and otology for school children and this is logical because the school health services are prominent in the ranks of case finding of visually and aurally defective children. It is not likely that other specialist services could be based on health centres because so many specialists use sophisticated and complicated apparatus which can only be economically situated in hospitals. The answer is that general medical practitioners are increasingly using the facilities of hospitals.

SECTION 22

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

"It shall be the duty of every local health authority to make arrangements for the care, including in particular dental care, of expectant and nursing mothers and of children who have not attained the age of five years and are not attending primary schools maintained by the local education authority."

- Vital Statistics** The statistics relating to births and deaths are shown in Table 1.
- Combined Area** The population shows an increase of 520 over that of last year, that is from 195,370 to 195,890. Births decreased by 70 from 2,866 to 2,796 as did deaths by 45 from 1,954 to 1,909. The natural increase, that is the excess of births over deaths, is 887. The actual increase, however, is 520, revealing a movement away of 367 people.
- 1971**
- It is not possible when dealing with this Section of the Act to separate the work of the health visiting and midwifery services which play a very large part in the care of mothers and young children and so this part of this report deals mainly with the work of the departmental medical officers of the Division.
- Medical Officers** Ten doctors work for the Executive on a regular basis. Most of these are married women working in a part-time capacity and their whole-time equivalent is six doctors excluding the Divisional Medical Officer and his deputy. Their work is almost equally divided between care of mothers and young children and duties in the School Health Service.
- Child Health Centres** Child health clinics are held at 25 places throughout the Division. The highest attendances are, in order, Garston Health Centre, The Avenue, Croxley Green, Abbots Langley, South Oxhey and St. Peter's, Bushey. Garston Health Centre is under severe pressure, serving as it does most of north Watford. Attendances at the Avenue fell by over a thousand from 5,296 in 1970 to 4,332 in 1971 entirely as a result of the roadworks taking place there. The clinic in Malvern Way, Croxley Green, which is held in church premises had nearly 4,000 attendances in 1971, an indication of the usefulness of the service provided. Abbots Langley clinic, like Garston and the Avenue, is held in purpose-built premises and attendances there are always good because the clinic is regarded not only as a health centre but as a meeting place also. Attendances at South Oxhey Health Centre might be expected to be higher until it is remembered that even though there is a large Greater London Council estate there it is a middle-aged estate and many young people move away because they are unable to find housing near their parents and relatives. One of the Bushey clinics, at St. Peter's, is held in church premises and has a good attendance because it serves a large part of Bushey; a better service could be provided from a purpose-built health centre.
- Children under one year old** 2,673 children under the age of one year attended child health clinics in 1971. As there were only 2,796 children born in the Division in that year this means that about 95% of all children born during the year were seen at clinics and furthermore each attended monthly during the year. Mothers obviously would not attend unless they derived some benefit and the reason is not far to seek because the clinics are part of a scheme of child health that is the best in the world. No children need to be seen by the medical officer at every visit but

the aim is for the doctor to see every child around the age of six weeks and this examination is a source of great comfort to mothers because every mother has the unexpressed fear that something may be wrong with her baby and re-assurance is one of the great arts of medicine.

Developmental Paediatrics Every child is examined around the age of six weeks, as I have mentioned. Every child develops at a different rate and, for example, at the age of six weeks there are certain reflexes which are present and at other ages there are certain motor, social, hearing and speech and eye, and hand functions which can be elicited. Failure of development can be detected by the experienced observer at quite an early age and once discovered the appropriate remedial or educational measures can be taken. The art and science lies not in knowing what should be present at a certain age, but in what is the normal development for a particular child, taking family, social, medical and other factors into consideration.

Specialist clinic Inevitably, some children are found not to be developing normally and others have obvious conditions requiring expert management. For this purpose we have a specialist clinic run by Dr. Joan Leigh, Senior Clinical Medical Officer, in consultation with Dr. I. Kessel, Consultant Paediatrician at the Watford General Hospital. The clinic works very successfully to the benefit of the children concerned and is a good example of co-operation between the branches of the Health Service.

SECTION 23

MIDWIFERY

Tables III and IV give the statistics relating to the domiciliary midwifery services. The trend towards hospital delivery continued, with nearly 90% of all births taking place in hospital. One-third of all mothers were discharged early from hospital and this had the dual benefits of delivery in the safest place possible and early return to their families.

It is interesting to note that the number of hospital deliveries by domiciliary midwives again showed a slight rise, 311 such deliveries taking place.

The diminishing number of domiciliary deliveries which has been taking place over the past several years indicates a need for an entire recasting of the role of the domiciliary midwifery service. There is no doubt in my mind that the time has come for the whole midwifery service, domiciliary and hospital, to come under one administration and the obvious place for this to be done is from the hospital. Provided that those general practitioners who do their own midwifery continue to have the benefit of a domiciliary midwife attached to their practices, there is no reason to expect any change in quality of the service as far as the mother having her baby at home is concerned. It is hoped that this change will take place in advance of the 1974 reorganisation.

Midwifery Training School (Part II) The school has remained consistently full with a high proportion of pupils from overseas. Many of these girls will be returning home where their new-found skills will be of immense value. The decline in domiciliary midwifery all over the country has led to a revision in their syllabus with emphasis being given to a broader understanding of the facilities available for patient care within the community.

SECTION 24

HEALTH VISITING

The Divisional Nursing Officer reports :—

The Health Visiting Service originated during the last century to help the problems of poverty and malnutrition. Poverty is still with us, although its origins are different and the health visitor gives guidance on budgeting and advice on allowances obtainable. Malnutrition is only rarely met today, but wrongful feeding has presented us with a major health hazard — obesity, which is found in babies and school children as well as adults. In an effort to provide education in diet and the necessary incentive to follow the advice given, special clinics have been started by health visitors in several centres, under the guidance of the Medical Officer.

Maternity and Child Health A total of 36,750 home visits were paid to 13,915 children under the age of five. The decrease in the number of children from 15,812 in 1970 reflects a shortage of health visitors and more highly selective visiting.

A total number of 46,843 visits were made to child health clinics by children under five years of age. This decrease from 50,363 in 1970 is partly accounted for by the decrease in the birth-rate, and also by the increase in the number of children seen by the health visitors in the doctors' surgeries.

The Assessment Play Group This playgroup for handicapped children is run with the help of voluntary helpers by a health visitor and a trained teacher from the Education Department. Its purpose is to watch the progress of these children over a period of time, to teach them to mix with other children and to assess their potential for schooling.

The health visitor who is responsible for the playgroup writes :—

“The Centre has now been running for two years. We have had to reduce the sessions from two mornings a week to one, owing to a shortage of transport, but the group has been functioning smoothly ever since. We now have twelve handicapped children and despite illness and hospital appointments the number rarely falls below nine. As we also have three hearty “guests”, children of our teacher and helpers, there is always a group working industriously with the teacher in one room, while others play in the hall with slide, prams, trains, balls, etc. The four voluntary workers who were originally bullied into coming now come every week because they are concerned with the children, and can see for themselves the value of their work. The physical handicaps include three children with spina bifida, two deaf, and two partially sighted. The mental handicaps are due to encephalitis — and an operation for the removal of a malignant tumour of the brain.

The medical officer who selects and assesses the children has an excellent opportunity of carrying out further assessments over a long period. The children know her well, and she is able to judge when a child is functioning below his normal level. Both the doctor and our new play group teacher are able to devise games and other activities likely to stimulate their progress. We are very sorry to lose our kind transport organiser, who for nearly two years managed to get the children to us in spite of illness and family commitments among the drivers. We are very thankful to have found a volunteer to continue this important task and are also grateful to the very reliable team of drivers and escorts.

The boys of Merchant Taylors School designed and made a climbing frame for the garden, which includes such exciting accessories as rope ladders and swinging tyres.

There is only a short waiting list for the Group now, and the medical officer would be pleased to hear of any child who could be considered for this group."

Another interesting play group is held at the Youth Centre at Abbots Langley. The Health Visitor writes :—

"A play group commenced at the Youth Centre one morning a week for children with special needs, known as the "opportunity class". Those children who are handicapped can mix with other children. This now includes two children who come from Leavesden Hospital with a nurse to join this very successful group in the community."

Mothers Club Garston Mothers' Club continues to thrive. Membership numbers have been restricted to sixty, and a new Tuesday Club formed to meet the need for social contact amongst young mothers of the area.

A varied programme of talks, films and demonstrations was enjoyed,

The Club was visited by a blind lady and her guide dog, a mental health social worker, dentist, paediatrician and demonstrations of beauty care, photography and cookery were all notable.

The Drama Group produced a Nativity Play and a "Potted Panto".

Leavesden Hospital was adopted as the charity to be supported in 1971. Apart from birthday and Christmas presents, a sum of £9 was raised for the hospital to be used at the discretion of Mr. Robbins for the Pets Corner at the Hospital.

The Abbots Langley Mothers' Club has had another successful year with two outings arranged to include the children. Health visitors are at the Mothers' Club Meeting every week for advice and information and health education films are part of the programme.

The Evans-Whitman Mothers' Club has had another successful year. The health visitor reports:—

"Named the Evans-Whitman Club, after two health visitors who helped in its foundation, meetings have been held once a month on the second Thursday evening, except in August (average attendance 25). Talks were arranged on crime prevention, flower arranging, Watford Town Planning, and the theatre.

A health visitor attends each session and there have been many informal discussions on health subjects on evenings when no formal speaker had been invited."

The Avenue Mothers' Club has also been well supported. This has a high health education content with group discussion of problems with the health visitor, while her assistant 'entertains' the children in the main hall.

Woodhall has proved so popular that permission was obtained last summer to start a second club on
Toddlers Club Monday afternoons. Both clubs are flourishing and have waiting lists.

Mothers attend with their 2—5 year olds, taking it in turn to supply suitable play materials, supervise the children and providing tea and orange juice. They are expected to organise register, rotas and waiting lists, etc., entirely amongst themselves; health visitors being available for advice when needed.

The clubs play an important role, introducing children to their first experience of mixing and sharing with others and educating mothers to sensible, cheap, play materials as well as giving them the opportunity to meet other mothers and share experiences.

The health visitors are available to give advice and new ideas or for private interview to discuss individual problems.

In an effort to provide continuity of care for the patient, the health visitors attend clinics held by the Hospital Service.

- Venereal Disease Contact Tracing** Two health visitors attend clinics at Shrodells Hospital where they are available to give help and advice in the many social and health problems. They also help by tracing and advising contacts of patients.
- Maternity Hospital** Health visitors have continued to attend the booking clinic at Shrodells Hospital and are able to help with the many emotional and practical problems experienced by the mothers. A total of 1,055 mothers were also visited at home. Health visitors also participate in the ante-natal instruction classes run by the hospital midwives.
- The Elderly** Weekly meetings held by the Geriatrician are attended by a nursing officer and medical social worker colleagues. Efforts are made to see that any services that the patients may need on discharge are organised before he goes home and the nursing officer presents follow-up reports.
- Hospital Paediatric Clinic** Health visitors attend the paediatric clinic at the Peace Memorial Hospital where they can assist the Consultant with background information and follow-up reports.
- Cervical Cytology** An increase in laboratory facilities has provided an expansion in this most important preventive service. With the co-operation of employers and their occupational health nurses, a team comprising a medical officer and two nurses has been able to take the clinic to factories, shops and offices. This has meant that a number of women have been able to have this simple test without losing any working time.
- Health Education** Health education is an important part of the work of a health visitor, which is not confined to the one-to-one basis or the display of posters. Efforts are made to involve as many people as possible and we have been encouraged by the help given by colleagues in the teaching profession. Children's art is always appealing and we are indebted to the schools who have provided us with posters. Not only are these attractive but they are educational for the artists.
- Health education was introduced into a pre-school playgroup in Abbots Langley. The children, ages ranging from 3 years to 4½ years, received weekly instruction from the health visitors, on the importance of basic safety first, health and hygiene. This was given in the form of games, songs, puppet shows, films and talks. Mothers and teachers from local infant schools were also encouraged to join in on some occasions and were impressed by the amount of knowledge the children had acquired.
- Health education and mothercraft were taught in various forms in some infant and junior and comprehensive schools throughout the year. Talks and first-aid lectures were also given to the staff on request at some schools in the district. Health visitors also examined in the schools for the National Association for Maternal and Child Care Certificates.
- Talks were also given by health visitors in their free time at the request of various clubs and societies.

Health Visitor Assistants Fifteen SRNs help the health visitors in a part-time capacity. They work in the schools, testing vision and helping the health visitor with school medical examinations and general hygiene inspections. They help with child health clinics as well as cytology, minor ailments and audiology clinics.

Training Our staff are kept aware of trends and new advances in medicine by in-service training lectures arranged by the Training Officer at County Hall.

They are being increasingly involved in the training of staff for the different nursing registers, and this has proved to be extremely time-consuming. Lectures on the Local Authority Health Service have also been given to a wide range of students.

SECTION 25

HOME NURSING

Statistics relating to home nursing are shown in Table VI. It will be seen that although the number of home visits stayed constant at around 76,000, the number of treatments in general practitioners surgeries increased to 9,997 as compared with 6,113 in 1970. This is a further indication of the increasing use of district nursing sisters by family doctors. If the patient can attend the surgery then this results in a great saving of both the nurse's and the doctor's time.

The Divisional Nursing Officer reports :—

- Community Nursing** “The role of the district nursing sister needs no explanation. As a trained nurse with post-graduate community training, she is a valued addition to the practice team and an increasing amount of her time is being spent in the doctor's surgery. This not only widens the scope of her work but relieves the general practitioner.
- Of the 42 nurses employed, all but one work full time, 15 combine midwifery with generalised nursing and three others are also engaged in health visitor duties. The nurses have the backing of five auxiliaries, one of whom works full-time.
- Tuberculosis** The number of tuberculosis cases needing treatment at home rose by three, to twenty, necessitating a total of 373 visits.
- Night Nursing** We now have four State Enrolled Nurses who are available to give night nursing care. This service is principally designed to give round the clock nursing for patients with terminal illness and use is made occasionally of agency nurses when our own staff are already committed.
- Training** Staff are kept up-to-date by lectures arranged by the Training Officer at County Hall and many eminent speakers have been involved. Four nurses took the District Nurse Training Course and successfully passed the examination. The nurses trained as practical work instructors assist with this training.
- All members of staff are involved with students from many disciplines who come to observe the work of the community nurse. This is very time-consuming and we are indebted to the co-operation of the patients.”

SECTION 26

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Triple Immunisation The improvement noted in percentage figures for vaccination and immunisation procedures in the last report and attributed to the computerisation of appointments has been maintained. Whooping cough vaccination was received by 90% of the infant population and diphtheria and tetanus by 93%. These figures compare well with the overall figures of England and Wales.

Measles Vaccination For children aged between 2—3 years, measles vaccination showed an overall increase with a percentage protected of 66.7 compared with 52.5 in 1970.

SECTION 28

PREVENTION, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

Chiropody Once again the number of chiropody treatments increased, to 15810 in 1971 from 14,538 in the previous year (Table VIII). As was mentioned in last year's report, the number of clinic sessions in County Council premises increased. A flourishing clinic now operates at Garston Health Centre and clinics will start next year at Bushey, Maple Cross and Alban Wood. I am grateful to Mr. A.H.Naylor, Headmaster of Maple Cross JMI School for his kind co-operation in preparations to set up the clinic at Maple Cross Health Annexe, which is attached to his school.

The number of treatments given at chiropodists private surgeries fell by over 800, which is in line with the increase in patients seen at County Council clinics. The number of treatments given at the patients' homes increased slightly.

Cervical Cytology The total number of attendances at cervical cytology clinics rose from 665 in 1970 to 1,917 in 1971. This was the result of increased publicity consequent on an improvement in the laboratory facilities. Even so, the numbers seen are very small compared to the number at risk and not enough women in the most affected social groups are coming forward to have the test. Publicity and health education continue at a high level.

Health Education 1st January 1971 saw the appointment of a health education officer specifically for this Division. Since that time health education activities, already at a high level, have increased pace. The Divisional Health Education Officer is based at Ivy House, Bushey, which serves as a useful display centre, workshop and meeting place.

Mr. P.L. Pretty reports :—

“During the year efforts have been made to include all sections of the community in health education policy.

Undoubtedly the groups giving greatest opportunity for access are children at school or college, through links with the education department; and young parents, through links with health centres.

It seems essential that the foundation of health awareness should be laid at school and a substantial part of health education resources has been concentrated in the educational sector. The soundest method is to integrate health education into the whole scheme of work — the isolated talk or visit being of little value. To implement this objective meetings have been arranged for the health education officer to discuss principles with groups of headmasters. At these meetings the broad perspectives of health education have been discussed. Such basic issues as what health education is, who should do it, and how it should be done, have been considered critically. The Curriculum Report, 'Education for Health' of the Newcastle Teachers Consultative Council has been examined and taken away by headmasters for evaluation within the schools.

As well as work at a philosophical level, a number of practical projects have been developed in co-operation with teachers. Some examples of these are:—

- (a) a biological project on pollution at the Lea Farm Junior School;
- (b) a dramatic project on dental health education at Colnbrook Educationally Subnormal School;

- (c) a project linking smoking with mathematical concepts at the Sir James Altham School; and
- (d) a team teaching project on Preparation for Life, involving seven teachers at the Bushey Meads School.

This type of approach is based on the educational principle that children come to understand things through active involvement in their work, rather than by passive acceptance of ideas.

A particularly encouraging feature in the education sector has been more involvement at places of Further Education. The Home Economics, Hairdressing and Business Studies Departments of Cassio College have broadened their curricula to include health education on such topics as drugs, venereal disease and smoking.

In some health topics teachers are particularly in need of support, and meetings have been arranged to cover drugs and venereal disease.

Health Centre themes have been decided by regular meetings of a 'Health Centre Theme Group' containing at least one representative from every health centre. Some themes have been chosen to coincide with national campaigns, as in the case of mental health, retirement and smoking; others have been based on assessment of the local situation as in the themes on lice, measles, and foot health.

Attempts at influencing health habits of pre-school and infant children have been through dramatic work and puppetry; topics covered were generally dental health and elementary hygiene. This approach was first used in a pilot project at the Abbots Langley Health Centre playgroup and is now being used in other parts of the Division. As some playgroups have a clientele of over 100 children per week, there is obviously much potential in this field.

Access to the middle-aged group for health education is difficult, and for this reason contacts have been made with industry. In co-operation with the industrial nursing staff and union officials, major projects have taken place at Trewin Bros. and Sun Printers. The health project at the Sun Printers was perhaps the most notable project of the year and should serve as a guide for future projects. Health education was aimed at felt needs of the employees and the main topics were obesity, smoking, stress, safety and the correct use of the body in basic movements. The whole project was carried out on a three-shift system so that all of the 2,500 employees had the opportunity for involvement. Continuity was and is maintained by industrial nursing staff.

In the middle-aged group talks and discussions were also held with a number of ladies groups. This was useful for middle class groups, but did not cover the whole social range so well as industrial health education.

The health centre theme covering retirement was aimed at making younger people aware of the emotional and material needs of old people; while health education for those actually in retirement has been covered mainly by health visitors in home visits. In the next year an interesting development for older people is a course to be held at Cassio College on the 'Role of the Grandparent'."

APPENDIX

TABLE I

VITAL STATISTICS OF CONSTITUENT AUTHORITIES IN SOUTH WEST HERTFORDSHIRE

	Bushey U.D.C.	Chorleywood U.D.C.	Rickmansworth U.D.C.	Watford R.D.C.	Watford M.B.	S.W.Herts
Population	24,610	8,500	29,670	55,100	78,010	195,890
Number of births	357	93	377	542	1,427	2,796
Number of illegitimate births	20	4	22	49	100	195
Crude birth rate	14.5	10.9	12.7	9.8	18.3	14.3
Area comparability factor	0.96	1.05	1.07	0.99	0.98	-
Standardised birth rate	13.9	11.4	13.6	9.7	17.9	-
Infant deaths — under 1 year	3	1	10	4	20	38
— under 4 weeks	2	-	7	3	16	28
— under 1 week	2	-	7	3	13	25
Infant mortality rate	8	11	27	7	14	14
Number of stillbirths	3	2	2	4	14	25
Stillbirth rate	8	21	5	7	10	9
Perinatal mortality rate	14	21	24	13	19	18
Deaths — all ages	189	64	290	490	876	1,909
Crude death rate	7.7	7.5	9.8	8.9	11.2	9.7
Area comparability factor	1.17	1.08	1.18	1.0	0.95	-
Standardised death rate	9.0	8.1	11.6	8.9	10.6	-

TABLE II — CHILD HEALTH CENTRES

Centre	Children attending				Attendances				Number of sessions held				Children referred else-where
	Born			Total	Born			Total	Medical Officers	Health Visitors	General Practitioners	Total	
	1971	1970	1969		1971	1970	1969						
Abbots Langley Health Centre, Popes Road. (Thurs. pm) (1st, 3rd, 5th Tues. pm. Imm.)	139	314	169	622	2326	1034	173	3533	71	-	1	72	45
Bedmond Village Hall. (1st, 3rd, Wed. pm)	48	117	69	234	505	234	129	868	23	2	-	25	8
Bushey Pine Ridge, Bushey Mill Lane (1st, 3rd, 5th Thurs. pm)	84	32	67	183	575	200	168	943	28	-	-	28	5
St.Paul's Church Hall, Bushey Hall Road (2nd, 4th Wed. pm)	79	50	39	168	534	273	126	933	24	-	-	24	3
St.Peter's Church Hall, High Road (Mon. pm)	127	80	91	298	1550	483	165	2198	48	-	-	48	9
Methodist Church Hall, King Edward Rd. (2nd, 4th Fri. pm)	92	90	55	237	599	181	112	892	22	-	-	22	3
Chorleywood Baptist Church Hall (Wed. pm)	102	87	139	328	976	372	281	1629	50	1	-	51	6
Radlett Village Institute, Watling Street. (Fri. pm)	70	94	216	380	903	457	568	1928	49	2	-	51	3
St.John's Church Hall, Willow Way. (1st, 3rd Wed. pm)	29	37	93	159	346	136	171	653	24	-	-	24	-
Rickmansworth The Bury, Bury Lane. (Thurs. pm)	92	79	161	332	954	367	453	1774	51	1	-	52	-
Croxley Green, Malvern Way (Tues.pm)	131	127	288	546	1887	770	1005	3662	50	-	-	50	15
Eastbury Farm, Bishops Avenue (1st, 3rd Fri. pm)	55	17	39	111	260	108	146	514	25	-	-	25	2
Maple Cross, Denham Way (2nd, 4th Fri. pm)	42	21	27	90	587	206	172	965	22	26	-	48	-
Mill End, Berry Lane (Mon. pm)	80	82	116	278	1143	564	275	1982	48	-	-	48	2

TABLE II - Cont'd.

Centre	Children attending				Attendances				Number of sessions held				Children referred else-where
	Born 1971	Born 1970	Born 1969	Total	Born 1971	Born 1970	Born 1969	Total	Medical Officers	Health Visitors	General Practitioners	Total	
Sarratt	20	30	67	117	321	233	373	927	1	-	23	24	-
Village Hall (1st, 3rd Tues. pm)													
South Oxhey													
Community Centre, Hampermill Lane (2nd, 4th Wed. pm)	26	37	18	81	278	109	65	452	24	-	-	24	3
Health Centre, Oxhey Drive (Mon. & Fri. pm; Tues. am, Imm.)	169	175	334	678	2123	923	250	3296	144	7	-	151	9
Woodhall Annexe, Woodhall Lane (Tues. pm)	67	93	157	317	737	267	586	1590	49	2	-	51	23
Watford													
Avenue Health Clinic (Tues. am; Wed. pm; Wed. am. Imm.)	350	161	66	577	3169	812	351	4332	106	6	37	149	3
Garston Congregational Church Hall, St.Albans Road. (Wed. pm)	141	24	22	187	1291	196	117	1604	8	5	39	52	-
Garston Health Clinic, St.Albans Road (Tues. Fri. pm; Thurs. am. Imm.)	441	107	127	675	5522	1194	775	7491	90	-	62	152	17
St.James' Church Hall, Elfrida Road. (Thurs. pm.)	95	19	15	129	779	205	68	1052	51	1	-	52	-
Holywell Health Annexe, Tolpits Lane (Fri. pm; 1st, 3rd, 5th Mon. pm. Imm.)	129	93	24	246	1239	211	141	1591	72	2	-	74	9
Alban Wood Health Annexe, The Brow (Mon. pm.)	65	75	45	185	1482	319	233	2034	41	-	7	48	7
TOTAL	2673	2041	2444	7158	30086	9854	6903	46843	1121	55	169	1345	172
Attended for Immunisation only and not included in above statistics to avoid duplication	742	594	863	2199									

TABLE III(A)

SECTION 23: MIDWIFERY — HOME VISITS AND SESSIONS

	Abbots Langley	Bushey	Chorley- wood	Croxley Green	Radlett	Rickmans- worth	Sarratt	Watford Garston South Oxhey	Total
Doctor present:									
Deliveries	21	6	4	29	3	12	6	33	114
Visits after delivery ..	226	150	90	226	18	168	71	409	1,358
Miscarriages—first visit ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
—revisits ..	17	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	22
Doctor not present:									
Deliveries	5	27	17	24	1	14	9	119	216
Visits after delivery ..	59	296	155	99	20	210	67	1,618	2,524
Miscarriages—first visit ..	-	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	9
—revisits ..	40	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	41
Early discharge from hospital:									
Within 48 hours	6	7	3	5	1	1	-	7	30
After 48 hours	60	134	59	50	82	49	21	524	979
Revisits	275	554	208	266	176	156	93	1,363	3,091
Ante-natal:									
First visits to expectant mothers	41	41	29	56	10	30	12	372	591
Revisits to expectant mothers	284	303	118	421	70	100	168	3,631	5,095
Home condition reports for hospitals	51	85	48	32	26	37	11	341	631
Phenylketonuria—Guthrie Test:									
First takes	42	35	16	14	15	14	10	290	436
Re-takes	5	7	5	4	8	1	3	27	60
Ante-natal sessions:									
Local Authority	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	24
General Practitioner ..	130	134	56	75	-	31	10	147	583
Instruction class	39	5	-	6	6	43	6	78	183
Cervical Cytology:									
Local Authority	6	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
General Practitioner ..	63	36	-	-	-	-	-	75	174

TABLE III(B)

SECTION 23: MIDWIFERY - HOSPITAL DELIVERIES BY DOMICILIARY MIDWIVES

	General Practitioner Unit	Consultant Unit	Total
Doctor present:			
Deliveries	76	235	311
Visits after delivery ..	1,871	2,193	4,064

The above patients were usually discharged within 48 hours from the Watford Maternity Wing and care was continued in the patient's home.

TABLE IV(A)

ANTE-NATAL AND POST NATAL CLINICS

	Patients Attending	First attended 1971	Number of Sessions held by			Total Sessions
			Midwives	General Practitioners	Hospital Doctors	
South Oxhey:						
Health Centre, Oxhey Drive (2nd & 4th Wed. pm)						
Ante-natal	167	26	-	-)		
Post-natal	12	12	-	-)	24	24
TOTALS	179	38	-	-	24	24

TABLE IV(B)

ANTE-NATAL, MOTHERCRAFT AND RELAXATION CLASSES

Name of Class	Expectant mothers attending			Re-attendances			Sessions held by		
	Institutional booked	Domiciliary booked	Total	Institutional booked	Domiciliary booked	Total	Midwives	Health Visitors	Total
Abbots Langley: Health Clinic, Popes Road (Mon. pm)	13	4	17	43	23	66	42	-	42
Radlett: * Village Institute, Watling Street (Wed. pm)	4	-	4	8	-	8	4	-	4
Rickmansworth: The Bury, Bury Lane (Tues. & Fri. pm)	39	19	58	139	68	207	6	43	49
Watford: Tremona, Alexandra Road	6	33	39	43	29	72	21	-	21
TOTALS	62	56	118	233	120	353	73	43	116

* Discontinued early 1971

TABLE V
SECTION 24: HEALTH VISITING — HOME VISITS

	Abbots Langley	Bushey	Chorley- wood	Croxley Green	Garston	Radlett	Rickmans worth	Sarratt	South Oxhey	Watford	Total
Child Health:											
Children born in 1971:											
First visits	216	360	89	130	794	84	278	34	304	597	2,886
Revisits	514	1,138	239	256	1,822	685	281	127	943	1,466	7,471
Children born in 1970:											
First visits	420	309	58	141	805	255	211	39	693	789	3,720
Revisits	465	829	161	189	1,699	711	383	157	705	738	6,037
Children born in 1966-69:											
First visits	444	736	197	398	1,694	796	805	93	908	1,238	7,309
Revisits	650	936	280	320	2,661	662	1,140	327	1,132	1,129	9,327
Aged:											
Persons 65 years and over:											
First visit	238	191	40	141	347	19	136	23	394	292	1,821
Revisits	770	367	75	115	618	70	339	112	531	492	3,489
Visited on medical request ..	124	144	11	32	176	8	46	2	206	172	921
Mental Health:											
Mentally disordered:											
First visits	35	6	-	4	33	1	3	2	19	38	141
Revisits	144	6	-	2	61	4	25	37	54	85	418
Visited on medical request ..	25	2	-	2	12	1	1	-	9	31	83
Hospital Discharges:											
Persons, excluding maternity cases discharged from hospital:											
First visits	13	6	1	14	29	-	3	-	12	16	94
Revisits	1	-	-	-	17	-	1	-	-	1	20
Visited on medical request ..	14	2	-	12	22	-	-	-	11	9	70
Tuberculosis and other Chest Diseases:											
Number of T.B. households:											
First visits	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	* 658
Revisits	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*2,560
B.C.G. follow-up	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	* 11
Contacts (inc. Mantoux tests at home)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	* 379

TABLE V — Cont'd.

	Abbots Langley	Bushey	Chorley- wood	Croxley Green	Garston	Radlett	Rickmans- worth	Sarratt	South Oxhey	Watford	Total
Tuberculosis and other chest diseases (Cont'd.)											
Non-tuberculosis:											
First visits	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	* 66
Revisits	5	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	* 23
Ante-natal:											
Expectant mothers:											
First visits	97	152	22	27	177	100	87	13	249	131	1,055
Revisits	47	69	15	10	65	2	11	1	65	40	325
Adoptions:											
First visits	1	22	2	7	18	2	10	-	4	12	78
Revisits	2	12	1	12	25	5	7	-	3	19	86
Nurseries and Childminders:											
First visits	6	25	5	8	72	6	21	7	31	29	210
Revisits	45	67	62	43	130	36	60	-	87	39	569
Disabled:											
First visits	9	13	-	6	56	2	21	5	33	29	174
Revisits	12	21	1	7	137	3	23	19	84	43	350
Social Problems:											
Number referred Social Work Unit	64	37	3	8	162	9	4	-	34	73	394
Infectious Diseases:											
First visits	7	1	-	-	27	-	1	-	10	1	47
Revisits	11	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	5	1	21
Other cases:											
First visits	101	14	20	28	59	8	59	9	84	182	564
Revisits	228	26	22	9	49	13	86	-	109	302	844
School Nursing:											
Home visits (personal hygiene follow-up)	23	3	4	3	159	7	13	-	14	75	301
Home visits—other follow-up, including B.C.G.	33	25	117	50	176	16	37	8	207	111	780
Casual visits to schools	54	74	14	31	65	-	17	5	66	41	367

TABLE V – Cont'd.

	Abbots Langley	Bushey	Chorley Wood	Croxley Green	Garston	Radlett	Rickmans- worth	Sarratt	South Oxhey	Watford	HVAs #	Total
Maternity & Child Welfare:												
Child health (L.A.) ..	116	207	108	86	303	69	263	21	229	233	885	2,520
Child development and assessment	-	11	-	-	74	-	3	-	9	5	11	113
Immunisation & vaccination	19	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	1	23	234	285
Ante-natal instruction class	-	1	3	4	2	-	43	-	2	5	5	65
Handicapped playgroup ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	-	4	-	-	54
Hospitals:												
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	* 19
V.D.	1	23	-	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	51
Geriatrics	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4
Ante-natal	-	6	-	-	42	13	27	-	3	19	-	110
Paediatric	10	13	5	14	25	3	10	-	14	17	-	111
General Practitioners:												
Geriatric	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Child Health	4	83	-	-	30	-	37	-	-	2	48	204
Immunisation & vaccination	52	21	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	130	-	225
Other	44	39	-	-	13	-	22	-	110	240	2	470
School Nursing:												
Medical inspections ..	57	57	16	33	139	16	33	3	63	89	207	713
Pre-medical inspections ..	18	9	-	2	32	15	8	3	-	24	441	552
Special Clinic	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	551	554
Personal hygiene inspections	15	16	-	-	28	4	6	-	1	15	226	311
(number of children seen)	3,028	1,734	-	-	3,033	256	884	-	20	1,116	38,548	48,619
Health Education Group Work	23	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	8	-	34
Eye test (number of children tested)	15	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	251	269
BCG and other immunisations	921	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	12	16,212	17,163
Audiology	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	74	80
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	29

TABLE V – Cont'd.

	Abbots Langley	Bushey	Chorley Wood	Croxley Green	Garston	Radlett	Rickmans- worth	Sarratt	South Oxhey	Watford	HVAs #	Total
School Nursing – Cont'd.												
Family case conferences ..	4	-	-	1	9	1	1	-	6	2	-	* 117
Meetings attended ..	49	47	16	23	37	5	30	15	62	69	20	* 388
In-service training ..	9	15	2	10	30	4	23	6	12	50	10	171
Teaching and Group discussion (excluding schools ..	130	1	-	20	20	1	21	13	9	104	55	* 375

Health visitor assistants are attached to health visitors, attend child health clinics, assist with school medical inspections and do Keystone vision testing.

* Includes visits by tuberculosis visitors in the Division.

TABLE VI
SECTION 25, HOME NURSING — VISITS AND SESSIONS

	Abbots Langley	Bushey	Chorley- wood	Croxley Green	Radlett	Rickmans- worth	Sarratt	Watford Garston South Oxhey	Total
Medical:									
First visits ..	141	162	90	136	71	216	56	1,510	2,382
Revisits ..	4,288	5,993	1,567	3,655	3,321	5,784	1,859	35,050	61,517
Surgical:									
First visits ..	81	54	11	17	29	27	8	328	555
Revisits ..	1,198	1,532	103	538	367	496	128	7,010	11,372
Infectious Diseases:									
First visits ..	17	25	-	-	-	-	-	5	47
Revisits ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	31
Notified tuberculosis cases:									
First visits ..	-	-	1	1	-	4	-	14	20
Revisits ..	-	9	12	15	-	101	-	236	373
Others:									
First visits ..	18	18	10	8	-	9	-	9	72
Revisits ..	39	8	47	4	-	-	-	68	166
TOTAL VISITS	5,782	7,801	1,841	4,374	3,788	6,637	2,051	44,261	76,535
Treatments:									
G.P. and surgery ..	-	6,253	-	-	2,812	-	-	932	9,997
Persons 65 or over at:									
First visit ..	176	96	67	92	30	139	50	962	1,612
Revisits ..	3,327	4,408	1,124	2,694	1,964	4,330	1,489	27,629	46,965
Children under 5 at:									
First visit ..	8	5	-	-	1	2	-	33	49
Revisits ..	18	65	-	-	10	2	-	260	355

TABLE VII

SECTION 28, PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE – CERVICAL CYTOLOGY

First attendances	..	..	..	..	1,367
Results of tests:					
Negative	..	..	..	..	1,170
For re-test	..	..	..	..	188
Further investigation recommended		..	..		9
Subsequent attendances:					
Results of tests:					
Negative	..	..	..	..	223
For re-test	..	..	..	..	49
Further investigation recommended		..	..		4
Re-Test – 3-year					
Attendances	..	..	..	..	274
Results of tests:					
Negative	..	..	..	..	237
For re-test	..	..	..	..	36
Further investigation recommended		..	..		1
Subsequent attendances:		..	..	..	1
Negative	..	..	..	..	1

TABLE VIII

CHIROPODY

Number of treatments given at clinics	..	..	3,962	(1970–2,152)
" " " " " surgeries	..	..	6,761	(1970–7,601)
" " " " " home	..	..	5,087	(1970–4,785)
Total number of treatments given	..	..	15,810	(1970–14,538)

TABLE IX

RECUPERATIVE HOLIDAYS

Applications received from:				
General Practitioners	..	..	77	
Hospital Consultants	..	..	7	
Chest Physicians	..	..	<u>1</u>	85
Applications not approved	..	..	17	
Patients for whom no vacancy could be obtained			2	
Cancellation by patients	..	..	16	
Applicants sent to:				
Hertfordshire Convalescent Home	..		21	
Other Convalescent Homes	..		<u>29</u>	50

TABLE X
NURSING HOMES

	Number of Homes	Number of beds provided		
		Maternity	Other	Total
Homes registered during the year	-	-	-	-
Homes whose registrations were withdrawn during the year	1	-	7	7
Homes on register at end of year	2	-	31	31

